

SPEECHES

delivered by

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble

Thomas David Baron Carmichael of Skirling,

G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G.,

GOVERNOR OF BENGAL,

during

1913-14.

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***His Excellency's Speech at the Unveiling of Lady Minto's Portrait
at the Town Hall, Calcutta, on 7th April 1913.***

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I shall have very great pleasure in unveiling Lady Minto's portrait as Mr. Monteath has asked me to do. I have seen the portrait, so I can tell you that it is a charming picture, beautifully composed and cleverly painted, besides being a very good likeness. I feel sure the people of Calcutta will be very grateful to the subscribers who have put it here. I hope you will all admire it as much as I do. Mr. Monteath has hinted that I shall say a great deal now in praise of Lady Minto. Ladies and gentlemen, I am not going to do that. I shall think much, but I shall not say much, for most of you knew Lady Minto; and in saying that I almost say enough. All whom I have heard speak of Lady Minto in India, and no doubt many more whom I have not heard speak of her—say that she was everything which a Viceroy's wife ought to be. Her practical good sense and her tact won for her the respect,—her charm of manners won for her the affection,—of all with whom she came in contact. In Calcutta, we often hear the Minto *Fete* cited as an example of capable organisation, and the Lady Minto Nurses will long recall her genuine and sincere sympathy and kindness of heart. I do not wonder that she did her duty well, for she comes of a family whose members have always lived up to their motto and in widely separate lands have done service for their Sovereign with right good will. Very few people—perhaps none—save those who have themselves been Viceroys, really know how much a Viceroy's wife can help her husband in the duties of what Lord Minto's predecessor described as “the noblest office in the gift of the British Crown.” But we can all form some idea of it, and the letters of various Viceroys and Governors-General which have been published from time to time teach us more. I dare say there are some of you who cannot help thinking just now of that other Lady Minto—the first Countess of Minto—whose husband's term of office as Governor-General of Bengal came to an end in 1813, just a hundred years ago. Perhaps I ought not to recall the story of his return home—one of the saddest stories of the kind—to your memory on a joyous occasion like this, but if you ever read his letters, you know how much he owed to his wife.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, it is no small part which a Viceroy's wife plays in India. If we think about it at all, we must recognise that a Viceroy's life is as arduous, as anxious, and as difficult as that of any man, and we must recognise what a help to him the tact, the calm judgment, the courage, and the sympathy of his wife must be.

It is well, I think, that you should place here—for the public to look at—not only the portraits of those who have filled the highest office in India, but also those of the ladies who have so nobly and so unselfishly helped them in their work.

Lord Curzon in a speech—it was in his farewell speech at the Byculla Club—enumerated some of the multifarious duties of a Viceroy, and said that one of these was “to make Bombay and Calcutta each think that it is the Capital of India”—future Viceroys will be relieved of that difficult task. I know nothing about Bombay, I have never been there, but I do know—I hear it on all hands—that Lady Minto did succeed in making you realise that she and Lord Minto loved Calcutta; and I know, too, that she succeeded in making Calcutta think such thoughts of her as render you all impatient with me at this moment, for you are longing to welcome her portrait which I shall now uncover.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Unveiling of Lord Curzon's Statue,
on 8th April 1913.***

MR. MONTEATH, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

When I was asked to help in the arrangements for erecting the statue which I am presently going to unveil, I readily agreed, for I felt proud to be associated in any way with a memorial of Lord Curzon, especially when it brings to him the distinction which he himself described as "one of the highest which can be conferred upon a servant of the Crown in India,"—"perpetual commemoration upon this historic Maidan." I did not dream that I should take the prominent part in to-day's ceremony which I am taking, for I hope—as we all hoped—that the Viceroy would unveil the statue. The Viceroy has sent me a telegram which I shall read to you—

"TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF BENGAL, CALCUTTA—I deeply regret that I am unable to be in Calcutta to-day to unveil the statue of one of the greatest of Viceroys of India and one of my oldest friends for whose ability I have a profound admiration. My thoughts and good wishes are with you and Calcutta on this auspicious occasion—VICEROY."

Lord Hardinge would have unveiled the statue if he could. We all know why he cannot, and in our sympathy with him and in our desire that he should do nothing which can in the least delay his complete recovery, we forget, in some degree at least, our disappointment. I do not claim to be in any way a worthy substitute for the Viceroy. I cannot speak to you eloquently as he would have spoken, nor put forward an appreciation of a predecessor as, with the authority of his office, he could have done. I can only claim that I have an honest admiration for Lord Curzon. I have known Lord Curzon for a long time. I first met him more than 40 years ago as a small boy at our first school. Even then his diligence and the resolute way in which he did his work struck all who knew him, and I can truly say I have never since met any one who sets himself more thoroughly and conscientiously to master whatever he takes in hand. Even then one realised that his ideals are high, and that, if he expects much from others, he also expects others to expect much from him. Even then he showed that generous appreciation of good work when done by others which is one of the most marked traits in his character, and which has made so many of those who served under him his devoted friends: even then it was clear that he is one who finds opportunities because he is never too weary to watch for them—and that he makes good use of those he finds. Even then one felt that he bears no malice, that he is willing to give everyone a chance, and that he knows how to forgive. It is common knowledge that his early ambitions led him towards India. No Viceroy—possibly no man—ever came to take up his task in India more carefully prepared for it than Lord Curzon was by diligent and intelligent study. All admit that he worked hard while here; no one can say that his work was not

thorough. We meet many people who did not agree with his views, or who disapprove of some of his acts; but we meet none who deny that he freely and ungrudgingly gave to India of his best. What his work was you know, better probably than I do. I only know that in the five months during which I was in Madras, and in the year during which I have been in Bengal, I have continually met with evidence of it. The panels attached to the base of his statue illustrate four matters with which his name will always be identified, it seems to me that we might have multiplied these by four, and even by four again, and yet not have exhausted the subjects on which he has left the impress of his personality. His untiring energy, the way in which he set himself a task and did not turn aside from it until he had done it: the way in which he never spared himself—his indomitable courage which gave him strength to do what he thought he ought to do, even when suffering acute physical pain—above all the way in which he got other people to work well—all go to make indelible the mark which Lord Curzon has left in India. I know there are people who point to some of the things which he did, or aimed at doing, and say that they have not endured; there are people who tell me that it is a strange irony of fate that I should unveil Lord Curzon's statue, for it has only been the setting aside of one of Lord Curzon's ideas which has brought me to Bengal. But, ladies and gentlemen, is this really so?

No man can ever succeed in everything, he tries, unless he is a man who never tries to do things really worth doing. The attainment of a reform, not the way in which it is attained, is what matters—and I believe time will show that Lord Curzon has in essentials sometimes succeeded most where on the surface and at first sight it looks as if he had failed. Neither I nor any future Governor of Bengal is ever likely to allow the recurrence of the state of affairs which led Lord Curzon to believe that Bengal ought to be divided; if we showed any signs of allowing it, I am sure the popular representatives of Calcutta, who know that the prosperity of your city and of the whole of Bengal are bound together, would be far too patriotic to stand it. The love of the people of Calcutta for their city is proverbial. It strikes every newcomer: at first one may be inclined to think that that love is at times perhaps a little too strongly expressed. There are days when as one drives across the Maidan one can hardly help repeating to oneself the old lines—

“ Her sons take pleasure in her stones,
“ Her very dust to them is dear.”

But it seems to me that no one can be here long without beginning to share that love oneself.—I know I feel it; no one ever felt it more than Lord Curzon did. I shall not quote as I might quote the things he has so eloquently said about Calcutta. We have only to remember what he did. We have only to look at the improvements which he effected—at Dalhousie Square, for instance, or at the Curzon Gardens—and compare them as they are now with what I am told they used to be. Ladies and gentlemen, I sometimes get letters from Lord Curzon; I can assure you that the letters which I have had from him since I came here are alive with a real interest in, and a love for, this city, which I feel sure the

warm-hearted people of Calcutta cannot but reciprocate. In your midst he spent many of the best days of his life—with you are bound up many of his most cherished recollections. You rejoiced with him in his joys, you sorrowed with him in his sorrows. Lord Curzon did much to keep alive the memory of many Englishmen who have worked hard for Calcutta—Indians and Englishmen alike are proud of them. I doubt if any of them strove harder than Lord Curzon did to serve this city. I believe that among the many statues which adorn the Maidan, few will rouse more lasting interest than his. The statue is a fine work of art and will, I am sure, be admired where it now stands—but it will look far better when it is placed on the spot for which Mr. Thornycroft designed it and when it forms a part of that great scheme, which Lord Curzon himself conceived, which will commemorate a great Queen-Empress whom all Indians loved, in a way worthy of Calcutta; and which will add lustre to Calcutta in a way worthy of him who planned it. I have now been in Bengal for almost exactly a year,—long enough for me to set before myself a plan of a few things which I should like to do or in which I should like to help before I leave. One of the things in which I should like to help is the completion of the Victoria Memorial Hall. I am proud that I should have been called upon, so early in my term of office, to unveil the statue of one who, in my early boyhood I believed, would serve his country nobly. I am glad to think that so many of the people of Calcutta will look with admiration on this statue. But I shall be prouder if before I leave India at the end of my term of office I see this statue placed on its proper site in dignified relation to that great building whose construction and completion Lord Curzon has so much at heart; and I know that when that day comes Calcutta will rejoice, and her people will realise in no uncertain way how great is the debt of gratitude which they owe to Lord Curzon.

Ladies and gentlemen, I now unveil the statue.

His Excellency's Speech at the Prize-giving at the Darjeeling High School on 19th June 1913.

BOYS OF THE DARJEELING HIGH SCHOOL,

This is not the first time that we have met : I look back with great pleasure on the day when last year I came and saw you all busily at work in your classes. What struck me most then—and what strikes me most now—is the remarkable number of different races which you represent. I wonder whether any other school in Bengal can boast as many—I doubt it. This great diversity of races and of manners and customs which one meets with in Darjeeling has been a constant source of interest and joy to me ever since I came here.

So far as the school authorities are concerned, however, this diversity of races must bring with it many difficulties, for each race has its own language,—Basanta Babu has just told us in his annual report that no fewer than eight languages are taught in this school. The excellent programme of recitations which you have just gone through has shown us how successfully you have overcome these difficulties. I never before listened to so many languages spoken in the short space of half an hour. I am told that there were other boys quite ready to go on reciting other pieces, but that for want of time their efforts have had to be kept for another occasion. I am sorry in some ways for this as I fear that they may be disappointed, and I am sure I should have liked listening to their recitations if there had been time.

Although I do not understand the different languages, I am glad that your recitations were given for the most part in the mother-tongue of those scholars who gave them; for this is evidence that in this school the vernaculars are not being forgotten. I am a strong supporter of the view that a sound knowledge of one's mother-tongue is the best foundation for all true education. It is a great thing to be proud of your mother-tongue, and to be able to speak it well and to stand up for it against all comers. It increases a man's pride in his race and country. I am proud that I am a Scotsman, and hope that each of you boys is likewise proud of your nationalities, whether you be Nepali or Bhutia or Bengalee or Lepcha or Tibetan or whatever other race you belong to.

A Governor when speaking to boys at a prize-giving is always expected to give them good advice: so I must not leave this part out of my address to you. My advice to you is make the fullest use you can of your time at school. School education is worth having for its own sake. It is not a mere stepping-stone to the Matriculation examination: but something which will help you all through life. There was a great man in olden days who said "Cultivation of the mind is as necessary as food for the body." You know what happens if you get nothing to eat. I will tell you what happens if you do not cultivate your mind—your powers of reasoning and your judgment go to ruin, just as your body goes to ruin without food; and a man who has natural cleverness but has neither reasoning nor judgment, is a dangerous character in the

world, and only too often comes to a bad end. I have no doubt you want to become powerful and to live happy lives. Remember then there is no knowledge which is not power.

Learn as much as you can about all sorts of things and the world will become to you a perpetual source of interest, surprise and joy; and learn as much as you can about all sorts of men so as to sympathise with others and to feel for others in their troubles. If you learn these things, you will have a happy and useful life.

A liberal education is the greatest blessing which any man can have. I cannot end my remarks better perhaps than by quoting to you some words of the late Professor Huxley:

"That man, I think, has had a liberal education who has been so trained in youth that his body is the ready servant of his will, and does with ease and pleasure all the work that, as a mechanism, it is capable of; whose intellect is a clear, cold, logic engine, with all its parts of equal strength, and in smooth working order; ready, like a steam-engine, to be turned to any kind of work, and spin the gossamers as well as forge the anchors of the mind; whose mind is stored with a knowledge of the great and fundamental truths of Nature and of the laws of her operations; one who, no stunted ascetic is full of life and fire, but whose passions are trained to come to heel by a vigorous will, the servant of a tender conscience; who has learned to love all beauty, whether of Nature or of art, to hate all vileness and to respect others as himself."

His Excellency's reply to the Address presented at Bhairab.

GENTLEMEN,

This deputation of the inhabitants of Bhairab comes to me as a delightful surprise. My visit to Bhairab is purely of an unofficial character, and I had no expectation of such a cordial welcome. The first signs of it broke upon us yesterday evening when suddenly in midstream from out the darkness came the strains of a band playing the well-known march and when I went to the side of the *Rhotas* I found the musicians were on a steamer sent out to welcome us. I guessed that this was the kind thought of my friend Raja Jagat Kishore Acharjya Chaudhury of Muktagacha.

I am just recovering from an attack of fever and I came out in search of health and strength, and I am glad to be able to tell you that your beautiful river has given me both, and I go back to Dacca much the better for my trip.

I have heard much of Bhairab both as a great market on this magnificent waterway of the Megna and also as a point important in railway construction, and I have heard much of proposals to build bridges and to make new lines. You ask me specially concerning the project for a line joining Bhairab to Netrakona and Mymensingh. I am very sorry I am not able to give you any information upon this point. The matter is at present before the Railway Board, and we must await the decision of the Government of India.

My visit has helped me to realise the importance of Bhairab as a commercial centre, but I fear I cannot hold out to you any hope that it will become the head-quarters of a subdivision. I have not heard of any such project.

The other matters to which you refer I will send to my Secretariat, and ask them to make enquiries, especially regarding the school and the dispensary, both of which I hope you will show me this morning.

Gentlemen, again I thank you very much for this delightful and unexpected welcome.

His Excellency's reply to the Address presented at Munshiganj.

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL BOARD, MUNSHIGANJ,

I have been welcomed on many occasions by the Chairmen and members of District Boards, but I think this is the first occasion on which I have had the pleasure of being welcomed by the members of a Local Board; and I am glad that the first Local Board to welcome me should be one which has taken so keen an interest in Local Self-Government.

I have heard and read much of the ancient glories of Bikrampur. Many of those with whom I have come in contact told me that their homes are in this pargāna; I may mention the names of Raja Sree Nath Roy and his two brothers, the great scientist Dr. J. C. Bose and also my old friend Sir Chandra Madhab Ghosh. In olden times your pargana was the outpost of the Emperor of Delhi, when there were powerful kingdoms in Assam, in Tripura and in Aracan, and the warrior Mir Jumla appreciated this when he erected at Idrakpur the fort which I hope to visit to-day. When the kingdoms of Assam and Aracan ceased to exist and that of Tripura became less warlike, the strategic importance of Bikrampur declined, but the interest of the people in the administration of the affairs of this part of the world did not cease. Bikrampur seems to me to resemble in some ways my native land of Scotland though hardly in physical features! For many of the best of her sons seek employment far beyond her borders and indeed like Scotsmen in the British Empire take a large share in the administration of the affairs of this province; and like Scotsmen they are always proud of the land from which they came, and their children's children are proud to claim their connection with the home of their fathers.

As you may have heard, I was much interested in the valuable archæological finds lately made with the assistance of Pandit Pareshnath Mahalanabis of Panchsar, and in February last I went with my friend Khan Bahadur Aulad Husan to inspect them in the Dacca Kutchery. It seems probable that from the interesting finds which are being made at present in this district, we may be able to rescue from oblivion a part at least of the history of the ancient glory of Bikrampur and I hope the establishment of an archæological museum at Dacca may be of some assistance in this.

I am glad to have this opportunity of hearing about your local wants, and I hope I may be able to help you in attaining some of your desires. I see you owe much to the public spirit and generosity of the great Bhagyakul family, and especially to Raja Sree Nath Roy and the two Rai Bahadurs, his brothers. They have helped you to provide for Munshiganj a good water-supply, medical relief for the poor and recreation for the young.

Your Collector, Mr. Birley, tells me that the question of maintaining the efficiency of the present water-supply of Munshiganj is having his attention. I have asked him to let me know, as soon as the rains are over, how the course of the river has affected the situation, and how he thinks I may be best able to assist you.

If time permits I am to have the pleasure this morning of seeing the hospital to which you refer. Mr. Birley has told me of the great local interest manifested in this institution and in bringing medical relief generally within the reach of the poor. I hope that my visit to your hospital will stimulate you to fresh efforts in this direction.

I must honestly tell you that if I were you I would abandon altogether the idea of founding a college at Munshiganj. It may be true that it is difficult for your sons to gain admittance to the colleges at Dacca and Calcutta and it may be true that a college at your own doors would be a convenience, but I cannot honestly say that I think you could ever support a first-rate institution and it was not in second-rate institutions that the men who have made Bikrampur famous in modern times were educated. It is probable that in the near future the facilities for collegiate education in Dacca will be greatly increased and I would advise you to await that time and send your sons to Dacca. With your aspiration to have a first-class school I have more sympathy. I had not heard of the project, but provided you can raise locally the share of the expenditure which is usual on such occasions, I will do my best to assist you. You speak too in your address of your endeavours to raise money for a Muhammadan hostel. I understand that under the rules one-third should be raised locally and that local subscriptions have fallen short of this amount. I am always averse to breaking rules which are no doubt based on very good reasons, but at the same time I am anxious to do something to show you that I appreciate the welcome you have given me here to-day. I will ask Mr. Lyon, who is the Member in charge of Education, whether, as the amount still wanting in local subscriptions is not great, the balance cannot be found by Government and the hostel commenced without delay.

Babu Gobinda Chandra Bhowal who was a member of the Conference on Rural Water-supply which I summoned to Darjeeling, told me in conversation that the people of Munshiganj had done much to solve the problem in this part of the country by close personal attention to their tanks. This is as it should be, though perhaps not as it always is! It shows what can be done by the people themselves where education has spread. As you no doubt have heard, Government has agreed to hand over to the District Board the whole of the Public Works Cess, and I hope that this will enable the District Board to provide funds for dealing with the question of rural water-supply on practical lines. I hope that the District Boards will in the same way be enabled to help you to improve your road communications and to substitute good permanent bridges for those wooden structures, which, year by year, require repairs to make them passable.

I do not wonder when I have so many evidences of the interest you take in Local Self-Government that you should desire to have a Union Committee in Munshiganj. Your aspirations have the sympathy of my officers, and as soon as matters can be arranged, the Committee will be constituted, and I hope that when I return to Munshiganj, I shall have the pleasure of shaking hands with the members of the Union Committee as well as with the members of the Local Board.

Gentlemen, I thank you for your welcome to Lady Carmichael and to me on this our first visit to Bikrampur.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Durbar held in Dacca
on 28th July 1913.***

DURBARIES OF THE DACCA DIVISION,

I have not forgotten the cordial reception which you gave to my wife and myself when we arrived in Dacca a little more than a year ago, nor the cheering crowds who greeted us as we drove through the gaily decorated streets to Government House.

These last twelve months have, I hope, brought us closer together. We have learned to know each other. Your leading citizen—the Nawab Bahadur—has freely given me of his friendship, and has at all times been ready with advice which I value most highly; and I can say the same of others among you. I assure you I appreciate your kindness.

I have visited most of your institutions and many of your places of historic interest, and I have seen a good deal of the surrounding country. I am, therefore, far better able now, than I was last year, to sympathise with your needs and to appreciate your aspirations.

One of your aspirations to which you perhaps expect me to refer is that something should be done to increase the importance of Dacca. I have done my best to give a fair share of my time to Dacca and to Eastern Bengal. Last year during the rains I spent two months all but a few days in Eastern Bengal, while Government made Dacca its head-quarters, and I came back here for the month of February. I am bound though to tell you that I do not believe that the Governor will always be able to spend three months in each year in Eastern Bengal, and I am bound to tell you that I have been a little disappointed to find that residence in Dacca does not bring one into quite such close personal contact with Eastern Bengal in general as I had hoped it would. It does not do much to bring one into contact with the Chittagong Division or the Rajshahi Division, nor with any of the districts of the Dacca Division, except with Dacca itself and to some extent with Mymensingh. Even the people of Mymensingh, so far as my experience goes, do not come here very much, and as far as the other districts are concerned, I really get more opportunities of learning their views in Calcutta than I get here, for they come and see me more freely in Calcutta than they do here. But I have no intention of deserting Dacca. There was an understanding, when the present Province of Bengal was formed, that I, as Governor, should reside in Eastern Bengal for two months of the year, and you need have no fear that I will not carry this out. If I do not spend more time in Dacca, it will only be because experience has shown me that this is impossible in fairness to other parts of the Province. Speaking for my colleagues, I feel sure that they and all the principal officers of Government will continue to do their best to see things in Eastern Bengal for themselves, and to come into that close personal touch with the people which is the surest guarantee that any part of the Province can have that its interests will not be neglected.

One suggestion which has been made is that the Legislative Council might sometimes meet in Dacca. There are certain difficulties in the way of this. The Council was not created as a peripatetic body. It consists largely, as far as the non-official members are concerned, of men who have business in Calcutta and who have gone into the Council expecting its meetings to be held in Calcutta. Were Dacca within a few hours' journey from Calcutta as Poona is from Bombay, or as Allahabad is from Lucknow, it would be easy to arrange meetings of the Council at one time in Calcutta and at another time in Dacca; but under present conditions a meeting in Dacca would necessarily involve a larger tax on the time of many members of the Council than they are willing to pay; and I believe it would be difficult to get legislators to accept office if they knew that they were liable to be asked to make this sacrifice often. At a meeting of Council from which many of the most active members were absent it would be difficult to conduct anything but the most formal business, and a meeting of Council which only transacted formal business would, perhaps, be a disappointment. The day may come when by improved communications the two capitals are brought nearer to each other; but meantime all meetings where important business is to be done by the Legislative Council must continue to be held in Calcutta. These are the considerations which have so far prevented Government from summoning the Legislative Council to Dacca: and I am sure you will all agree they are weighty considerations.

Another question which has been much discussed is the possibility of establishing some of the Government departments permanently here in Dacca. In this again there are difficulties. It is more convenient, and I have no doubt it is better, for general administration, that the larger departments should be kept in close touch with the Government, and should be located at the same head-quarters; obviously in our case at Calcutta. It may, however, be possible to have some of the smaller departments here, especially any department in which the mass of business tends for the moment to gravitate towards this part of Bengal. Such a course would probably add but little to the prestige or importance of Dacca, but it might be of great value by giving openings for employment, and Government is considering the question carefully.

What will undoubtedly add to the prestige and importance of Dacca is the formation here, to which we look forward, of a great residential University. When I replied to the Addresses which you presented to me last year, I referred to this and spoke of your gratitude to the Viceroy for his proposal. Since then a Committee formed of some of the ablest educational experts in the Province has submitted their report. Whether you agree with its conclusions or not, you must, I am sure, have appreciated the thoroughness with which the Committee did its work and the clearness of its report. All who care for higher education owe a deep debt of gratitude to the members of that Committee, and especially to Mr. Robert Nathan, its President.

One important recommendation of the Committee's, Government has not been able to support, that in favour of "A College for the well-to-do classes." The zamindars when welcoming me last year advocated the foundation of a college for their sons. I promised them that the scheme

should be submitted to the University Committee. The Committee supported the proposal, but after full consideration my colleagues and I came to the conclusion that we could not advise the provision of such an institution at public expense, though we hope that some day the private liberality of some of those whose sons would benefit by it may provide a college in connection with the University of Dacca which will fill the want to which the zamindars drew my attention.

The other recommendations of the Committee as a whole received the approval of my Government, and have been forwarded with some slight modification to the Government of India. I hope that very soon active steps will be taken to carry them out for I look forward to seeing the opening of the University before the end of my tenure of office.

Nothing is more gratifying to me than to note the keen desire of all classes here for improved education. In this matter Government can, I hope, help to give effect to what seems to be the predominant wish of all Eastern Bengal. The Viceroy, as you know, is a true friend to education, and I am sure the Government of India will do all it can to help Bengal, having regard—as that Government must have—to the needs of India as a whole; and I promise you that the Local Government—the Bengal Government—will do its best to bring about a mutual understanding which will make for the good of all: and to help in bringing to as many people as possible a practical education to fit them for holding their own in the battle of life.

The need for improved means of communication in this part of the Province has been impressed upon me continuously ever since my first arrival: I think that during the last 12 months some headway has been made in this matter. Improved communication is wanted in many places, but I am convinced that the most pressing immediate need is better railway facilities in the district of Mymensingh. My colleagues and I have laid our views before the Railway Board with whom and the Government of India the decision in such matters rests; and we hope a beginning may soon be made. Better railway communications bring facilities for better administration, but at the same time such facilities always mean more work for the courts and the public offices, so that while carrying out improvements in communications, we must be ready to strengthen the administration. As you know my officers have long felt the desirability of dividing Mymensingh, and when I visited it last year, I held a conference with the leading men of Mymensingh to discuss this subject. I promised then that those chiefly concerned should again be taken into the confidence of Government before any decision is arrived at. I would not have you think that because Government has not again consulted you ~~that~~ the promise is not to be fulfilled. We deferred considering the matter further until the orders of the Railway Board are received, for unless we know what railway extension there is to be, we cannot feel certain of doing anything effectively, but as soon as the lines of railway are settled, we shall go into the question again and the public will again be consulted. That a division is needed in the public interests seems to my Government abundantly clear. That any division which can be proposed must for a time affect—perhaps must hurt—some private interests, is also clear. But a division has got to be

made, and I can only promise on behalf of Government that the scheme which we shall eventually put forward will be that which we believe is likely to cause, in proportion to the general good which it will achieve, the smallest amount of hurt to any individuals whom it may adversely affect.

What I saw last year confirms my belief, which I often expressed, in the value of our waterways. Government feels that there should be no antagonism between those interested in the development of the river communications and those who attach more importance to railways. We are convinced that there is ample room for both and we mean to act on this conviction.

During my tours I have learned to realise the difficulties with which the administration is faced in what I hear spoken of as the "water districts." I can understand, for example, how an officer in charge of a police-station suddenly called up on a stormy night to cross swollen rivers and find his way through thick jungle or treacherous swamps, in the faithful execution of his duty, does not always find it an easy matter. I know how important it is—few things are more important—that our officers should take a real personal interest in all which concerns the welfare of the people in the areas under their charge, and I realise how difficult it must often be for them in a country such as this is to move freely from village to village and so get a thorough understanding of their needs. One way of dealing with this problem is to lessen the areas for which individual officers are responsible and I hope, when next I return to Dacca, to be able to tell you more of a scheme which we are considering for bringing the people and the administration into closer touch and for utilising the influence—an influence which carries with it great responsibilities—of the local zamindars and the natural leaders of the people in every union and village. What we are anxious for is to get the villagers to take an active interest in the success of the administration, and to feel that much of their own comfort and happiness depends on this.

Last year my colleague, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shamsul Huda, himself an Eastern Bengal man, presided over a Conference on the question of the improvement of rural sanitation and water-supply. Several of you attended that Conference and gave it your assistance. Since then the decision of the Government of India, to place the whole of the Public Works Cess at the disposal of the District Boards, has increased their possibilities of usefulness in this direction, and with this help, I hope, we shall make great progress in the improvement of village sanitation and rural water-supply, and also in teaching the people to appreciate the value of such improvements; and—what is of the utmost importance—in inducing them to co-operate among themselves and with Government in achieving them. Conditions vary in different places: where no suitable water-supply exists, simple measures will, of course, not help and the expenditure of considerable sums will be necessary. But there are many places where all that is needed to secure better water and sanitary conditions can easily be done by the people themselves, if only they learn to appreciate the value of the improvements and will co-operate in obtaining them. Nothing can be of more use in this than local knowledge,

and it seems to me that those of you who really do wish to help Government have here an opportunity of which, I hope, you may avail yourselves to the full. This morning my hon'ble colleague, Nawab Syed Shamsul Huda, took advantage of your presence at this Durbar to bring together a Committee representative of the Dacca Division to discuss the needs of the individual districts, and he hopes to hold similar conferences with representatives of each of the other four Divisions at an early date, which will help us greatly when we come to carry out the orders of the Government of India concerning the distribution and application of the proceeds of the cess.

And now I should like to say a few words to you on the present political situation. My experience of Bengal is short: I have no special knowledge, but I have tried to learn what the true facts are, and I feel sure that those who have discussed things with me have told me what they really think. I believe that I have every right to speak of the political situation with satisfaction and confidence. The great bulk of the people are prosperous and contented and are, I believe, friendly to the Government. Those who are directly interested in politics certainly seem to me to be working within legitimate lines of advance, and to be eager in very many cases—I may say in most cases—to co-operate with Government in the better administration of the country. It is true that some of our educated people do not share in the increased prosperity of the country and find it difficult to meet the increasing cost of living which has followed on that prosperity, and so naturally do not feel entirely content with things as they are. We have in this a serious problem which must be faced—the solution of which can, perhaps, best be looked for in extended facilities for technical and industrial education—but I am not going to discuss this now.

It is true also that there is a great deal more of a certain class of crime—dacoity—than any of us care to see; it is true that in some recent years there was an increase in that class of crime. Dacoity is no new thing in Bengal: it has sometimes increased, it has sometimes decreased—no doubt largely as economic conditions varied. That in the last few years there were more dacoities than there were in the few years which preceded them is undoubted, and is to be deplored; that dacoities are much fewer than they were, say, fifty years ago is, I am told also undoubted, and—especially when we take into consideration the comparative accuracy of statistical reports then and now—is, I think, hopeful. What is quite as undoubted is that dacoities *must* be made to decrease. Government must see to that whatever be the cost and however difficult it may be to effect it. And what is to me more hopeful is that I find that many men who are not themselves officers of Government, but whose interest in an orderly Bengal is even greater than that of Government, for to them it means personal comfort as well as national credit—assure me that determination to help Government in putting down dacoity is becoming more widespread. To put down dacoity is, of course, to a great extent a matter of Police, but it is more than that, it is also a matter of public feeling. It is easy to say that the Police ought to be improved. So they ought, and so they will be—as has happened in other countries—when Government can get the

money to pay them better and to house them better, and make their lot generally a happier one. It is easy to say the people ought to give more assistance to the Police—so they ought, and so they will, when—as has happened in other countries—the people realise that the Police are their friends and exist for their protection and not merely for their punishment.

We have got to have more efficient Police, but we have got to help the Police to be efficient, and we have got to induce the people for whose benefit the Police exist, to change their attitude and in some ways their habits so as to make it harder for the dacoit to exercise his criminal calling with success, and easier for the Police to help the people to resist him. Government has to do its part and Government will, I believe, do its part, but I have a right to appeal and I do appeal to all who have any stake in the country or who care for the reputation of Bengal to do what they can to back Government up.

But when I spoke of the political situation, it was not of the mere attitude towards the Police or of ordinary crime that I was thinking.

We read a good deal and we hear a good deal about political crime; we read sometimes that it is common in Bengal; we see our dacoities referred to as political dacoities and Bengal spoken of as though its people were as a whole disloyal. Gentlemen, there is far too much loose writing and loose talk of this sort. Political dacoities are not common in Bengal. They form a very small proportion indeed of the dacoities committed in the Province. Political crime of any kind is rare here. Bengalis as a whole look, I believe, to the protection of the British Raj as much now as they ever did, and the educated Bengalis are everyday becoming to a greater extent willing members of the British Empire. The King's visit did much; reforms have done something, but, extended education and wider experience are doing even more, for they are convincing those who possess them that it is as willing members of the British Empire, working in harmony with those who have made that Empire that they will themselves be able to do most to secure happiness for the people of Bengal. At the same time there is a danger—a distinct danger—lest the small amount of political crime which does exist here should increase, and perhaps do incalculable harm to Bengal. Government knows—we have indisputable proof—that there is a class of persons whom I may call “irreconcilables.” They are not many—in fact I believe they are very few—but they constitute a very real menace to the progress of this country. Many people know little or nothing about them—many people would like to believe that this class no longer exists—but it does exist; and it is my duty—the duty of Government to warn you against it. These irreconcilables work in secret, but they are active in their work. We need not go into their motives. Whatever their motives are, they believe in them, and they try to get others to believe in them. They have a propaganda and they are constantly and determinedly working at spreading this propaganda; and we believe that they are doing this in the most pernicious way by trying to corrupt the minds of the boys of this country, while still at school.

I have every sympathy with the parents and guardians of the boys in this matter. Your boys have to be sent to schools often at a

considerable distance from their homes and the guidance of their lives to a certain extent passes out of your hands; you have to take some risk; I entreat you not to ignore that risk! You cannot forget, I am sure you do not forget, your duty both to your families and to your country to exercise as good an influence as you can over your children and I know you will do your best to prevent them from going wrong. Whether you have boys of your own or not, all of you—all of us—must feel sorry for those boys who are running the risk of being brought under evil influences. Boys with no experience—with only a limited amount of learning, learning which too often has only given them an erroneous and disproportionate view of things—sensitive boys perhaps and emotional, believing themselves to be inspired by genuine love of their country, ready or even anxious to meet danger in what they believe to be a noble cause. We cannot help realising how easily such boys may be led astray by designing men, too cowardly to come into the open themselves and too cruel to care what risks they lead others to run—they may be induced by such men to commit crimes, the true aspect of which they do not see. These poor boys may think—they probably do think—that they are doing something heroic, that they are actuated by the purest and most unselfish of motives, that they are risking their lives for the sake of their mother-country, while all the time they are only being duped into committing some very ordinary, and by no means brave, crimes which hurt no one but their fellow-Bengalis, and which, if often repeated, can only serve to delay and to lessen the opportunities which their country will have for self-development. They think they are going to win glory for their race, they are really bringing ridicule on themselves and contempt on their fellows. Even if they could be successful for the moment, they would only force Government to take repressive measures—there could be no alternative to that—Government would have to assert itself—which would bring sorrow to their people and check for a long time all progress in Bengal. The boys may be brave enough, they may be unselfish, they may be ready to take all consequences. That is the pity of it; they little realise what their actions must lead to. The risk is there; it is a risk which may grow, and I would entreat you again, with all the insistence I have, if you love your own country, if you love your own flesh and blood, to do all you can to combat it. If the people of Bengal do but realise the risk, I feel sure they will find a way to combat it; and I can promise you that my colleagues and I will do all that we can to assist you. Government is not vindictive; it is to the credit of England quite as much as to the credit of Bengal that Bengalis should succeed in all that is good. The young men of to-day will be the leaders of the people 20 years hence, and it is to the interest of all of us, and it is the duty of all of us, to do everything we can to bring these young men up as loyal and law-abiding citizens.

Gentlemen, I thank you for having listened to me thus patiently. It has given me the greatest pleasure to meet you all here to-day in this my first formal Durbar in the second Capital of the Province.

His Excellency's reply to the deputation of Pandits of the Saraswat Samaj received at Government House, Dacca, on 9th August 1913.

PANDITS OF THE SARASWAT SAMAJ,

I thank you for having come to see me to-day and for the kindly expression of good will contained in the verses read by the learned Secretary and in the learned Secretary's speech. I regret very much I am not able to understand Sanskrit, but you have kindly furnished me with a translation of the verses, and to the Commissioner—a great Bengali scholar—I am indebted for the translation of the speech.

You make three requests. The first Mr. Samman has answered for me. The consideration of the scheme for the reorganisation of the Saraswat Samaj is receiving careful consideration and will be pushed through as expeditiously as possible.

To the second request I gladly agree. Sir Lancelot Hare promised that as head of the Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam he would be the patron of the newly-organised Samaj: and I, as Governor of Bengal, will gladly carry out the intention underlying Sir Lancelot Hare's promise.

To the third request I also gladly accede. I willingly promise to preside over the Annual Convocation to be held in Dacca during the cold weather. I have no doubt you will communicate with my Private Secretary on the subject and arrange with him a suitable date.

Gentlemen, again I thank you for having come to see me.

***His Excellency's reply to the Address presented at Manikganj,
on 11th August 1913.***

MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL BOARD,

Both last year and this when at Dacca, I have heard much of your town and subdivision, and I am glad that I now have this opportunity of making your acquaintance. I am sorry I cannot spend a longer time amongst you, but for the next two hours I place myself unreservedly in your hands and I hope you will show me as much as time and weather will permit.

I have not found Manikganj such a very out-of-the-way place to get to, but then I have the advantage of being able to choose my own time and means of conveyance. I have, however, heard what a difficult journey it can be from Dacca to Manikganj, especially in the cold weather, when the waters of the Dhaleswari are low, and I can well understand your anxiety to obtain a more certain and speedy means of communication with the head-quarters of your district.

I fear it may be a good while before Government is in a position to construct a line of railway from Dacca to Aircha *via* Manikganj. I am not able to tell you more on this subject than I told the representatives of the People's Association at Dacca when they came to see me last year. A project for such a railway has long been before the Government, but there are many other projects which are considered more necessary for the development of the country as a whole; and I am sorry to say I see no immediate prospect of Dacca and Aircha being connected by railway.

The question of improving the road seems to me more feasible. My own officers have strongly pressed upon me the advantage which an improved road would be both to the administration and to the people. They tell me that the cost is likely to be heavy; something I believe between four and five lakhs of rupees is needed. But you and they have aroused my interest in the matter. I will have the road carefully surveyed, an estimate prepared and the financial question thoroughly examined; and while I do not wish to raise your hopes unduly, I hope that it may be possible for Dacca and Aircha to be joined in the near future by a road which will be open for wheeled traffic throughout the year.

You speak of a project of which you have heard for uniting your subdivision with that of Tangail and for raising the status of the latter place to that of a district head-quarters. The project has been mentioned to me by several private gentlemen, some of whom favoured it and others of whom are against it. It may reassure you to hear that no such proposal has ever been before Government since I came to Bengal at least. I am not in a position to express any view on the subject, for I have never considered it; but I am glad to have had this opportunity

of hearing your views. Of one thing I can assure you that before any decision is come to regarding any territorial redistribution, the people concerned will have every opportunity of expressing their views on the Government's proposals.

Mr. Birley has told me what you have done to improve the sanitation of your subdivisional head-quarters, and I hope you will show me the results this afternoon. The filling in of hollows, the cleaning out of tanks, and the cutting of jungle in the vicinity of your homes, is bound in the long run to have a good effect upon the general health of the town. In my experience where improvements of this kind have been carried out you have only to ask those immediately concerned for their opinion to find that they will tell you how much the additional comfort has improved their health. I hope to be able to help Mr. Birley to carry out the scheme which he has so much at heart for the improvement of Harirampur, and I will do all I can to encourage him and you in your efforts to improve rural sanitary conditions. Everyone with whom I have come in contact lays great stress on the importance of co-operation between the local officer and the people. I am glad to find both here and in Munshiganj such practical proofs of the value of this co-operation, and I trust your good example will be followed in other places.

You will, I hope, show me your dispensary and the high school. I am afraid I cannot hold out any hope that Government will give you the services of an Assistant Surgeon in place of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon who is at present posted at Manikganj. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon does the work of the Government and you have the benefit of his services in the dispensary on payment of an allowance of Rs. 120 per annum. The services of an Assistant Surgeon would, I am told, cost you Rs. 2,796 a year, and with an income of Rs. 1,200 per annum, the payment of such a sum is beyond your means. But since there is such a demand for the services of a qualified Assistant Surgeon, perhaps you could induce some well qualified member of the medical profession to come and settle among you, and work up a practice in your midst. I would like to see many independent medical practitioners up and down the country, provided they are capable and well qualified men. Where there is a demand for the services of a well qualified man, as I gather there is in Manikganj, such a one would make for himself at least a useful career and perhaps it might also be lucrative.

To your request regarding the school I can give a more favourable reply. I am told that in 1911 when you had collected a sum of Rs. 2,844 towards the cost of the present building, the Government gave you a building grant of Rs. 7,236. I hope you will show me this afternoon what you want to do; and if you can obtain a substantial amount of local support, I shall ask the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon to consider whether Government cannot give you as favourable a treatment as you received on the last occasion.

The bridge to which you refer would, I am sure, be a great convenience to some of you, but my officers tell me that while you have so many more important schemes upon which to spend your money, this is

perhaps rather in the nature of a luxury. You may, therefore, be wiser to abandon the project for the moment, until your town has expanded further on the other side, but I hope to see where you would like to have the bridge placed, in case I may some day be able to help you about it.

I am glad to hear that you take so much interest in local affairs, and that a demand for a Union has grown up in your midst. As soon as the proposal comes before me, you can rely upon my sympathetic consideration, and I hope it will not be long before you have a full-fledged Union Committee as well as a Local Board.

Gentlemen, I thank you on behalf of my wife and myself for your cordial reception of us this afternoon.

***His Excellency's reply to the Address presented at Sirajganj,
on 13th August 1913.***

MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONERS OF SIRAJGANJ,

I thank you for your expression of sincere loyalty to the Government of the King-Emperor in India.

I thank you also on behalf of my wife and myself for the cordial welcome to Sirajganj you gave us this morning and thank the Reception Committee for having organised this Garden Party and so given us a delightful opportunity of making the acquaintance of your chief citizens.

This is not our first visit to your district. Last year about this time, or perhaps a little later, we had the pleasure of visiting Pabna, and ever since I came into contact with the jute industry (which as you can imagine was very soon after my arrival in Eastern Bengal), I have heard of the importance of the Sirajganj market, and for that reason and because of all I heard from Mr. Beatson-Bell of the charm of the place, I wanted to see this great jute centre for myself.

Through railway communication to Calcutta *via* the new Sara Bridge would be to many of you a great convenience and would no doubt add greatly to the prosperity of your town. The survey of the line from Sirajganj to Sara has now been completed, and the Local Government has been consulted on the subject of the alignment, the waterways, the headways of bridges for navigable rivers and the level crossings proposed on the line. In considering these questions you may rest assured that I and my colleagues will not forget the interests of any section of the community and that we will be guided in our decision by what appears to us to be most likely to lead the economic development of the country at large. I hope I may have an opportunity of hearing this evening from those immediately interested their views on the project.

You speak of the responsibilities of your position as Municipal Commissioners. This morning I had some opportunity of seeing something of the way in which municipal affairs are managed and I congratulate you and especially Mohendra Babu, your energetic Chairman, on the interest taken in civic Government and the success which is evident from the neat and cleanly aspect of your bazars and streets. I was specially pleased with the hospital. The building is an excellent one and is kept in excellent order. From what I hear and from what I saw this morning I was certain the institution is doing good work. It is clearly well administered and popular with the people. I am glad you have secured the services of a lady doctor and glad that you have already taken steps to provide her with comfortable quarters. To work successfully it is necessary that the lady doctor should come to stay and you have been wise to ensure this by providing a comfortable home for her. If her work is to expand you must also provide her with a woman's quarter in the hospital. Your funds are already depleted

and so I will help you to do this. I have seen the land where you propose to build the addition when you have funds, and to mark the occasion of my visit to your subdivision I will give you Rs. 5,000 to help you to build a new women's ward.

I am sorry it has not been possible on this occasion to visit the educational institutions of the town, but I noticed many of the scholars in crowd and admired the decoration, which Mr. Fawcus tells me, they assisted to put up. I have asked Mr. Fawcus to request the school authorities to grant the scholars a week's holiday in honour of the occasion. Some Muhammadan gentlemen, who were kind enough to come and see me this afternoon, told me of the scheme for the removal of the Madrassa, and Mr. Emerson showed me one of the proposed sites on the other side of the Elliot Bridge. I learn from Mr. Emerson that the community has already subscribed liberally according to their means, and I shall speak to the Director of Public Instruction as soon as I get back to Dacca and consult with my colleagues, the Hon'ble Mr. Lyon and the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shamsul Huda, as to how the matter can best be pushed on.

It was a great pleasure to my wife and myself to be driven round the town this morning and to hear of the history of the place and its people from Mr. Emerson. I am glad to hear you speak as you do of the work of the officers who have served in this district and subdivision, and glad to find such cordial relations existing between the District Officer and the people. The inhabitants of this—his old subdivision—(and the place where he gained his first experience in administration) have, I see, as warm a place in Mr. Emerson's heart, as he has in yours.

Gentlemen, I thank you again on behalf of my wife and myself for the welcome you have given us to Sirajganj.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Town Hall Meeting, held on the
22nd August 1913, in connection with Floods.***

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for having called me to the chair; for that shows me you recognise that Government is one with you in the sympathy which brought you here and in your anxiety to help those of whose distress the Maharaja spoke.

We are thankful that the loss of life is not nearly so great as we at first feared; but we know that there is much suffering and that this must continue for a long time.

We are determined that all that can be done to mitigate that suffering shall be done.

You believe Government can do much and you expect Government to do much: we believe that we ourselves as citizens can do much, and we intended to do it.

Speaking for Government, I can say we do not shrink from our responsibility; it is our duty to try to preserve life by providing a maintenance for those who are actually destitute, and on us lies the responsibility for putting those who have suffered into a position of being again able to win their livelihood without leaving the country to which they belong. Government aid must be given in a somewhat mechanical way, for Government has a duty to those whose money it spends, and its actions are necessarily fettered by fixed rules. It can provide the necessities of life and the things required to give a fresh start to those who have lost their all. But it cannot provide many things which we should like to see provided, and it cannot undertake to replace actual losses. Nor can it—even were it right to attempt it—substitute its own agency for the ordinary methods of finance.

Within its limits Government is ready to do all and to spend all that may be necessary. There can be no hesitation over questions of cost where preservation of life is concerned, and expenditure will be limited only by need. That has been Government's policy throughout India in the past, that will be the policy of the Bengal Government now, and it is a policy in which I feel sure we shall have the support of the Supreme authority.

We have already given gratuitous relief, we shall continue to give it until those who need it are once more in a position to get on without it. We have taken, and we shall continue to take, steps to prevent the outbreak and to minimise the spread of disease. In these ways we hope to do our duty in preserving life, whatever the cost may be.

We shall give loans to many of those who have suffered, to help them to replace houses which have been destroyed, and cattle which have been drowned, or to purchase seed when we know what is needed.

We shall not necessarily give loans to all who have lost something, but we shall give them to all who find real difficulty in raising money in the ordinary way to make a fresh start.

If distress is prolonged, we shall organise relief-works. But we do not think this will be required on any great scale; for the damage to houses, to roads, to embankments which must all be replaced or repaired in itself makes it certain that for a good while there will be no lack of this kind of work for those who can avail themselves of it; and Government will give out its share of that work as quickly as possible.

But, gentlemen, more than this will be needed, for which we must look to private generosity supplementing the efforts of Government in the relief of distress.

The flood gave a great opportunity, and we may well be proud of the way in which private citizens have availed themselves of it. I have seen the reports sent in to Government by our officers; and on behalf of my colleagues as well as myself, I gladly express our admiration for the ready help which has been so freely given. My officers have not spared themselves in the doing of their duty; I am gratified to find this so widely recognised. But they have been right nobly supported. Not only those directly interested in the district, but many from Calcutta, from different parts of Bengal and some who do not belong to Bengal, people of many classes and of different creeds, have done splendid work. Landlords like my friend, the Maharaja of Burdwan, himself one of the sufferers, who has not merely given his money most liberally but has personally worked hard to save the lives and property of others—busy lawyers, merchants and men of affairs, have all in their different ways rendered most valuable help. The Marwari community have won universal praise by their generosity and by the practical turn they have given to it. Perhaps, I may specially mention the young men belonging to the Ram Krishna Mission and to the Church Missionary Society, the students and those others of whom we have all read. Young Bengali gentlemen have shown an unselfishness, a resourcefulness and a courage which will not soon be forgotten.

Money has not been wanting, willing service has not been wanting to prevent what was in any case a grave disaster from becoming much worse. More money and more service are needed; but organisation is also needed. Much had to be done at first in a disconnected way, or it would not have been done at all. It was spontaneous work done by individual effort. As such it may have had defects, though, these if they existed were far outweighed by its merits. Now, however, that we can consider the situation calmly, it behoves us to co-ordinate our efforts and to secure that there shall be no preventable waste. Government will give all the help it can; but in this matter private citizens must supply the driving force. Calcutta is a practical business city. This meeting will show that it is not backward in sympathy which will give hope to many now plunged in despair, and will secure for them some measure of comfort till a better season comes round. One of our duties will be to collect money. I want to tell you, before I sit down, that the Viceroy has promised to give a thousand rupees. His promise is to me a good omen—to you I trust it may also prove a good example.

His Excellency's Speech at the Prize-giving at the Dacca Medical School, on 25th August 1913.

COLONEL ANDERSON AND STUDENTS OF THE DACCA MEDICAL SCHOOL—

Last year I presided at the prize-giving of the Government Arts College here in Dacca. I am glad to have this opportunity of meeting you, the students of the Government Medical School. I have visited the Campbell Medical School in Calcutta to which Colonel Anderson has referred and had the pleasure last winter of giving away the prizes there. So I can to some extent appreciate Colonel Anderson's comparison of the two institutions.

Colonel Anderson has told us something of the needs of this institution. He says proposals for its improvement have been made by the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals. I have not yet seen these proposals, but my visit to-day will enable me to give them a more sympathetic consideration when they come before me.

The total absence of hostel accommodation seems to me a grave defect: for I feel sure you would all gain much from a life which brought you into closer personal touch with each other and with the members of the staff. I am glad to hear you take so keen an interest in the games club, and that you have proved your skill by your success in the football competition. The organisation of games and competitions does much to encourage that *esprit de corps* which is so valuable in all educational institutions—but a hostel life would do even more. There may be difficulties (of which I know nothing) in realising the aim which Colonel Anderson has before him, namely, to provide hostel accommodation for every student, but I shall have the question examined at once and see what can be done.

There is no doubt that the demand in the districts throughout Bengal for Western medical science is increasing, and the question of encouraging and satisfying that demand is constantly brought before me and my colleagues. Government is not in a position to satisfy that demand fully itself—even if it were right that it should do so. What I would like to see is a great increase in the numbers of what we call in my own land—Country Medical Practitioners. In Scotland the country doctor is looked upon as the guide, philosopher and friend of the people—as well as their medical advisor. He is often a man known to the people from his boyhood and—who after having taken his degree at Glasgow or Edinburgh—has come to practise in his own native district. It is difficult, I am told, to get the medical students of Bengal to settle in the mufassal—because when they go to the town for their education, they give up their simple habits of life and acquire a more expensive style of living—I do not say by any means a *higher* or a better standard of living—but they acquire a more *expensive* standard—and when their training is completed, they are unable to exist on the support which the village practice can afford them. I do not know whether this is the case

or not, but if it is, I can see that it is a reason why young doctors should gravitate towards the towns—where the number of medical men is already great—and desert the villages where their knowledge would be of ⁷¹such value. If so, I can only appeal to those of you who are least selfish to try to keep to your simple habits of life and do all you can to avoid acquiring expensive ones. Expensive habits do not necessarily lead to greater happiness: they do not often lead to greater usefulness. Think of the need which the people in your own village and the surrounding villages have of your own knowledge and skill, and keep before you as your aim in life the determination to use your knowledge and skill where it is most needed, and where it would be most useful. You know from your own experience what knowledge will be most valuable to you in such a career. • Whatever else you learn in the school, make sure that you acquire that knowledge thoroughly.

As an encouragement to you in your work I am making over a sum of Rs. 250 to Colonel Anderson to be put to the credit of your school sports fund.

Now we will attend to the principal business of the morning—the presentation of the prizes and medals to the successful students.

***Speech by His 'Excellency at the Opening of the Swadeshi Mela,
on 6th September 1913.***

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for your reception of me and I wish you every success.

Swadeshi-ism, as you, Sir, explain it, is a very practical form of patriotism. It aims at developing and organising the production and manufactures of one's own country so that they may hold their own in competing with products of other countries. It differs from some other methods, which aim at a similar end; in that it tries to attain that end only through the intrinsic merits of the products themselves. It stands quite apart from any protective wall of tariffs or from any political feelings of exclusion. As such Swadeshi-ism, if successful, must benefit not only the people of the country where it is practised, but all who are in any way brought in touch with them.

You, Sir, have referred to the want of success of some Swadeshi enterprises in the past, and have pointed out reasons for this. You are not discouraged, you need not be discouraged. It is always difficult to start a new enterprise, especially one which competes with enterprises which have fought their way successfully through difficulties. Your comparative want of success as yet is, I hope, only an earnest of your certainty of success before long, if you persevere. You have brought forward abundant reasons why you should persevere. No one denies the intellectual activity of Bengal, or the widespread desire throughout the whole of Bengal for knowledge. You have referred to Government. I feel sure the Bengal Government has a most genuine desire to help Bengalis to learn to make use of their knowledge.

I understand that you try to help those who carry on small industries. This is a thing which is being attempted in many countries. In India there are many small industries well worth helping—industries which depend mainly on the skilful handicraft of those who practise them. As far as I can judge, such small industries are peculiarly worth helping here. You have skill passed on from parent to child and developed to an extraordinary degree. In some crafts you even gain a great advantage from some of those habits which are often said to keep India back in the industrial race. It seems to me that what is most needed in these industries is organisation, in bringing together those who make the goods and those who want to buy them. In this matter I am afraid those parts of India which I have seen—I have only been in a few parts and may be speaking with the exaggeration of a very limited experience—but the parts where I have been do seem to me deficient in organisation. Babu Surendra Nath Banarji has referred to the common impression that many Indian gentlemen are not inclined to do manual labour. That disinclination is not peculiar to India, though circumstances have allowed more people in India than in some other countries to act on it. But in this matter of organisation hard manual labour is often not necessary. What is wanted is knowledge of facts: knowledge

of what is being made in your country and where it is being made, of what people want and where they want it, and also skill in bringing to the notice of people who perhaps do not know what they want—things which, when they see them, they will begin to find they do want.

But I take it, it is not merely of these small industries that you, who organise this *Mela*, are thinking. You look forward to the time when Bengal shall take a leading part in the industrial development of the world on a large scale. It was no doubt to that time that the vision of Surendra Babu, when he was speaking just now, turned. Possibly some of you may think it a mere dream; but many of you believe it is a dream which sooner or later can be realised. It must be difficult to realise it, and it can only be realised by determined effort. It certainly will never be realised if we only talk about it and do nothing. All honour then to those who try to do something!—even if they fail they are making it easier for others to succeed. In all industries the pioneers often have a hard time. Indians are beginning late in developing large industries, but they may develop these all the faster if they profit by the experience of other peoples who began earlier.

I have mentioned your intellectual activity, you must correlate that with industrial and commercial activity. Some of you are doing that successfully already. I dare say many are doing it whom I have not come across. When I hear—as I constantly do—of the large number of educated Bengalis who find it difficult to live in accordance with the standard of comfort which they wish to live up to—(the standard of comfort I know varies everywhere, and it is not easy for any one like me—who is not of the country—to know what it really is—but that is what I am told by Bengali gentlemen who tell me they have felt it themselves)—when I hear this I cannot help thinking that the day must be near when there will be a determined attempt on the part of such men to use industry and commerce as a means of securing their own comfort and at the same time helping their own country. No doubt the cultivation of the soil will for a long time at any rate—perhaps always—be the main industry of the country. I am not here to tell you how to develop your country. The people of any country, who, and whose forefathers have been dealing with that country, must have learned in the best of all schools—the school of practice—how to deal with it, and the most any incomer can do is to encourage and perhaps make a suggestion here and there as to how old practices may be brought to fit in with rapidly changing conditions. In manufactures it is somewhat different; there the outsider can sometimes give useful advice. But I am not an expert: I can only advise you to listen to experts and having listened to think for yourselves how their advice suits with your circumstances.

One thing I would ask you to remember; nothing can be done on a large scale without capital. I am sometimes told that the people of Bengal are very poor; I read that often in the newspapers—at other times I am told of the enormous quantity of money which is every year poured into Bengal. Obviously there are both rich and poor: what I hope is that the money brought into Bengal will be used to good purpose. If it is used productively, it seems to me there can be no doubt

Bengal will soon become a very much richer country than it is. Up to now Bengal industries have depended for the most part on European capital greatly to the benefit both of Europe and of Bengal. But there is plenty of room for Bengali capital too. And it is only the Bengalis who can provide that. Government may help your boys to get knowledge which will fit them to produce wealth as well as the boys of any country can; but if they are to have a chance of using their knowledge, there must be openings for them, and capital is needed to give openings. I am told that much Bengali capital passes from hand to hand in the shape of lawyers' fees. I hope those who part with it in this way are quite satisfied, and I hope those who receive it are equally satisfied. I am told many successful Bengali lawyers are keenly interested in Swadeshi-ism. I am glad to hear it, especially if, as I hope, they are growing rich. For they will help to provide openings. I am told the rich men in Bengal have lent much money, but not often hitherto to help industries; and I am told industrial returns are not attractive enough. I would merely ask you to remember that your industries have to compete with industries financed by capitalists who are not accustomed to getting the interest which is often looked for by Bengali investors, and that until there are men willing to invest money with the prospect of a return, no higher than that which suffices for the investor from other countries, it is needless to hope for a very great development. I am sure, however, that Bengali rich men are patriotic and I am sure they are intelligent. I hope, therefore, you may look forward confidently to the time when it will be clearly shown that Bengal is a country whose people make the fullest use of her natural advantages. This *Mela* is meant as a step in this direction, and I now gladly declare it open.

***His Excellency's reply to the Addresses presented at Malda,
on 10th November 1913.***

GENTLEMEN,

I am glad to hear from you your expressions of loyalty to the Person and Throne of His Gracious Majesty the King-Emperor. I thank you also for the cordial welcome which you have given on behalf of the people of Malda to me and to Lady Carmichael. Shortly after I came to Bengal I learnt of the important part that this district has played in the history of the Province, and I determined to take an early opportunity of visiting the sites of the ancient capitals of Bengal. Gaur, I know, is referred to in very ancient times. It was the Hindu Capital of Bengal before the Muhammadan conquest, and continued to be the capital for many years until it was superseded by Pandua. I am looking forward with great interest to the visits we are to pay to the sites of these two ancient cities, and I am fortunate to have with me at this time Mr. Blakiston, the Assistant Superintendent of Archæological Survey.

But let me turn to your present needs. As you say, I am keenly interested in the improvement of the supply of drinking water in Bengal, and I am glad to see that the Municipal Commissioners have given their attention to this important subject. Their scheme has not yet come before me, but when it does, you can rely upon my interest and support. The grant you ask for to aid you to carry out your project is greater than is usually given by Government; but I recognise that there is in your case perhaps justification for more liberal treatment. On the other hand, you must do all you can to help yourselves. The state of the finances of the municipality is, I understand, good; and you could, without straining your credit, borrow a larger sum than Rs. 15,000: you may be able to borrow even Rs. 25,000. The District Board, too, will shortly receive a large addition to its revenues when the Public Works Cess is made over to it, and I think a scheme, such as you have in view, would be a very proper object to which to devote a portion of this revenue. If you will consider these two points carefully, and let the Government know what you are prepared after due consideration to do for yourselves, I shall endeavour to give you the balance of the amount you require from Provincial funds, even if it does to some extent exceed the usual contribution of one-third.

To the request you make regarding the ferry revenues I am afraid I cannot give you an encouraging reply. I am informed by my advisers that the income from these ferries is part of the Provincial revenues, and that the Provincial Government has no right to alienate these revenues any more than it has the right to alienate the ordinary Land revenue. They tell me that all applications for such ferry proceeds—and there have been many—have for some years now been rigorously refused. I am afraid, therefore, that I cannot help you in this matter.

I heard from Mr. Hornell that the proposal regarding the Barlow Girls' School is before him at present. He tells me that the land acquisition proceedings have been begun, and that the preparation of plans and estimate has been taken in hand. I can promise you some grant-in-aid if the Education Department approves of your proposals, but the amount will depend on the reserves at the disposal of Government for female education.

I am glad to hear from the members of the District Board that the promised transfer of the Public Works Cess has been so much appreciated, and that this will help them to provide feeder roads and so to improve further the facilities for communication which the new railway has brought to this district.

The representatives of the Muhammadan community referred in their address to the hostel scheme recently sanctioned. The Superintending Engineer has already been asked to expedite the work, and I will do all I can to see that the building is promptly completed. On the subject of scholarships and free-studentships also, I consulted Mr. Hornell. He tells me that 23 free-studentships are available in the Malda Zilla School, but that this year three of them could not be granted for want of deserving candidates. The district of Malda is treated in the same way in the matter of free-studentships as the other districts of the Province, and it would appear that full advantage has not yet been taken of the facilities offered.

You have asked that if possible one of your co-religionists should be stationed at Malda as a Deputy Magistrate. I have asked the Chief Secretary, Mr. Cumming, to bear this in mind, and to send a Muhammadan officer if and when a suitable opportunity offers.

I turn now to the requests made by the Malda Association in their address. You ask that a District and Sessions Judge, or at least a Subordinate Judge, be stationed at Malda, or in the alternative that a Subordinate Judge be authorised to hold his Court in turn at Rajshahi and at Malda. You submitted a memorial to Government on this subject last year in which you prayed for the services of a Judge or a Subordinate Judge. I find that the High Court were opposed to the proposal on the ground that the figures for criminal and civil work in this district did not justify it. The Government agreed with this view, and their decision was communicated to you in June last. Your alternative proposal that one of the Rajshahi Subordinate Judges should divide his time between the two districts, sitting at each head-quarters in turn, has not, I think, been considered before. I feel sure that such an arrangement would be for the convenience of many people in Malda, and as soon as the High Court reopens, I shall consult the Hon'ble Judges on your proposal.

When Sir Lancelot Hare visited this district in 1909, you asked that the Government should take steps to keep the channel of the Kalindri river navigable throughout the year. An inquiry was made at Sir Lancelot Hare's instance by the Superintending Engineer, who reported that the bed of the Kalindri, at its junction with the Kenkar,

was 4 to 4½ feet higher than the bed at the mouth, and that the flow for the greater part of the year was towards the Ganges and not away from it. It is possible that there may have been some changes in the state of the mouth since that time, and so I have ordered a fresh investigation of the matter to be made.

When I was coming here this morning I experienced the difficulty of crossing the Mahananda to which you refer, and I can realise that a bridge over the river would be a great convenience to the people on this side. Such a project has, I am told, never been seriously put forward, and I cannot say how far it is practicable. I am told that it would cost at least between Rs. 80,000 and Rs. 90,000. It is contemplated to extend the Bengal Local Self-Government Act of 1908 to Malda; and if this is done, the District Board would be able to recoup the cost of such a bridge by levying tolls. I would advise you, therefore, to approach the District Board with the proposal, and ask them to prepare a regular scheme with an estimate of the cost and of the income likely to be derived from the toll. Then, if the Act is extended to Malda, the Government would willingly consider the whole scheme and see what assistance could be afforded to the District Board.

I have lately had to go into the question of the extension of railways in this Province very thoroughly, and I am afraid I can hold out little hope to you of the construction of a railway from Nawabganj to Amnoora. I think it is very probable that such a feeder line will be constructed some day; but the projects at present before the Government, which appear more important, are so numerous and so pressing, that it must be a long time before this question can be taken up.

Wherever a municipality is ripe for the grant of the elective system, I am always ready to extend the privilege to it. If the Commissioners of Nawabganj will submit a memorial through the usual channel, I will see that it is promptly dealt with.

Gentlemen, I again thank you all for the cordial welcome which has been extended to myself and to my wife by the people of Malda.

***His Excellency's reply to the Addresses presented at Dinajpur,
on 13th November 1913.***

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for the assurances of loyalty to the Throne and Person of our beloved Sovereign which you give on behalf of the people of Dinajpur. I thank you also for the cordial references you have made to Lady Carmichael and myself and for the good wishes you express on our behalf.

Our visit to your town and district has to be but of short duration; I am, however, glad to have the opportunity for even a brief meeting with the principal representatives of the people in this important district. Shortly after I arrived in Bengal, I had the pleasure of meeting and exchanging visits with the Maharaja Bahadur, and I am much looking forward to visiting the home of the chief landholder in the northern part of the Presidency this afternoon.

You have told me clearly of your wants; I fear I am not able to satisfy them all: I wish I were, for I think you show a most practical spirit; but I hope I can help you towards attaining some of them.

The first prayer put forward by the members of the District Board concerns themselves, and I was glad to hear it. The basis of Local Self-Government must rest, in theory at least, on the elective system. If there is a demand for such a system among the people themselves, it shows that they have come to appreciate self-government. If you will take steps to place your representations on this matter before the Government in the ordinary way, I shall see that the question is promptly considered.

I was very glad, too, to hear that the demand for education in the district is increasing. The public support which has been given towards the building of your new high school is in itself a proof of that demand, and it is a pleasure to me to know that to-morrow morning I am to lay its foundation-stone. I am glad, too, that my wife is going to declare a school for girls open to-day: for that shows that you do not limit your appreciation of the value of education to that of boys only, but recognise that if you are to make a full and real use of it, you must educate your women quite as much as your men. When you touch upon the subject of free primary education, you open a large question concerning which much has been said of late in India. As to the desirability of bringing primary education within the reach of every one, I have myself no doubt; but as to the possibility of the immediate or even of the early introduction of free primary education, I cannot speak very sanguinely—not as sanguinely at any rate as I should like to be able to speak. The Imperial Government, however, has recently given a large grant for the extension of primary education throughout the Province, and I sincerely trust that this is but the beginning of a policy which will some day bring primary education within the reach of every child.

In the first two addresses reference is made to certain specific projects which you have in view. I made inquiries of Mr. Hornell, and he tells me you have not approached the Education Department as yet with regard to any of these. I would advise you to do so as early as possible. The Government is making large grants to assist in the building of hostels, and I see no reason why the district of Dinajpur should not have its share of these. It is particularly gratifying to me to observe that in asking for hostel accommodation you are all able to join together, and to find that the claims of Muhammadans and Hindus alike are pressed in the same address. Unless, however, you put forward detailed projects and definite requests, the money is certain to be spent elsewhere, so I hope you will take my hint.

I am very glad to hear what you say concerning the efforts of Dr. Bentley and his staff to cope with the scourge of malarial fever. I am told that Dinajpur suffers as much as any district in the Province. I recently read Dr. Bentley's report on his operations, and I noticed that while he is not very certain about the effect of clearing the jungle and the tanks, he speaks very hopefully of the results of the distribution of quinine, and he hopes that much good will result from a systematic distribution of this in all schools. He speaks, too, very strongly of the necessity for the improvement of the drainage. I trust, therefore, that the Municipal Commissioners will give this matter their serious attention. I can promise them the assistance of the Government Sanitary Officers, and I can also promise them substantial monetary assistance when their detailed project has been approved.

In the addresses reference has been made to the inadequacy of the communications within the district. This fact has been impressed upon me also by the Commissioner of the Division. Adequate railway facilities, whether in the way of railway lines or of rolling-stock, are advantages which every district does well to aim at. At the request of the late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, a reconnaissance survey from Raiganj to Titaliya was sanctioned in the latter part of 1911. Unfortunately the Railway Board were unable, for want of staff, to carry out this survey in 1912-13. I shall see that the Railway Board are again addressed on the subject, and are asked to include in the survey an investigation of all possibilities for railway communications within the district. The building of the Sara Bridge and the projects contemplated in connection therewith are likely before very long, I hope, to effect much for the development of railways in Northern Bengal. Meanwhile until we know the result of this investigation, I fear we must postpone consideration of projects for light railways.

I quite agree with the desirability of linking up subdivisions by means of roads passable throughout the year. I have asked the Chief Engineer to complete, as soon as possible, the metalling of the road from Hili station to Balurghat. I have asked him also to draw up a project for a bridge over the river at Hili, so that if funds are available, this can be taken up as soon as the metalling is completed.

The metalling of the 38 miles of road from Dinajpur to Thakurgaon is a more serious matter. The cost, I am told, would be between two and three lakhs. It seems probable that a railway line will pass through

Thakurgaon one day, and, therefore, probably we shall be wise if we defer the consideration of the project for metalling the Thakurgaon road until we know the results of the railway investigation, of which I spoke a few moments ago.

The Dinajpur Association and the Muhammadan Association refer in their joint address to the question of legislation in connection with the transferability of occupancy holdings. This is a question which has attracted the attention of Government since the time of Sir John Shore before the Permanent Settlement, and which was keenly debated in Council in Sir Stewart Bayley's time at the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act. The difficulty caused by the indefiniteness and uncertainty of the law as it stands at present and the varying decisions of the Courts have again brought the question into prominence. The Government recently consulted the local officers as to the need for legislation on this subject, and as soon as their replies are received, we shall consider the question very carefully. I am told that there is not the same uncertainty with regard to the law affecting the occupancy of homestead lands; but if you will forward your views on this subject to the Government, we shall look well into them.

The Muhammadan Association ask me to employ Muhammadan graduates of this district in the Executive and Sub-Executive Services. The Chief Secretary, Mr. Cumming, tells me that every District Officer in this Division was recently asked to nominate two candidates belonging to families resident or domiciled within the district for the Provincial Civil Service, and from those thus nominated the Commissioner chooses two, one of whom the Government will appoint. We propose to continue this system in the future. Thus every district will have a chance of sending up its best graduates. I hope that in the near future we may have a representative of your district in the service.

I thank ^{you -} the zamindars and merchants for ^{your} ~~their~~ address of welcome. I shall ask the Chief Secretary to see that you continue to be consulted in all matters in which you are specially interested; and if you desire to communicate your views on other matters of a general nature, they will always receive consideration at the hands of Government. I have already referred to the question of the improvement of the means of communication within the district. The only other matter to which you refer is the congestion of the goods traffic at the Dinajpur station. I am told that the railway authorities have done what they can to relieve this congestion, but I shall send your prayer to my friend Colonel Browne, the Agent of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, and ask him to see whether anything further can be done to assist you.

On behalf of Lady Carmichael and myself I thank you for the kind way in which you have received us this afternoon. We both look forward with pleasure to increasing our acquaintance with you during our short stay.

***His Excellency's reply to the Addresses presented at Rangpur,
on 14th November 1913.***

GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for the assurance of your loyalty to the Throne and devotion to the Sovereign which is so heartily expressed in all the addresses you presented to me, and I thank you also for the gracious words of welcome and good wishes addressed to myself and to Lady Carmichael.

The Governor of a Province has but a few opportunities for meeting the people in the districts, and it is only comparatively a few of the people of Bengal who are able to come and see me in Calcutta, or Dacca, or Darjeeling. I am sorry to say I have not that intimate knowledge of the Bengali language which alone would enable me to come into close personal contact with the people of the soil; but I value these few opportunities of meeting with the representatives of the people in their own districts, and of hearing from them of their wants and aspirations. I cannot always satisfy those wants or fulfil those aspirations; but sometimes I hope it is possible for me to guide you towards a solution of your difficulties and to help on your schemes by giving them my personal attention. And this I can promise you I shall try to do. I have already had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of your two leading zamindars—Raja Mohendra Ranjan Ray Chaudhuri of Kakina and Raja Gopal Lal Ray of Tajhat.

I am not dependent on the ordinary service of trains, and so I have been spared the inconveniences to which you call my attention. I had a talk on the subject of those inconveniences with Colonel Browne, the Agent of the Eastern Bengal State Railway, when I was in Calcutta, not many days ago. He explained to me the reasons for the change in trains. Formerly the Assam mail ran from Sara *via* Parbatipur and Rangpur to Kaunia, but since the opening of the Santahar-Bogra line, the Railway Company have diverted the Assam mail *via* Bogra. In this way, Colonel Browne explained to me, a line of railway 97 miles long with 22 stations is served; whereas if the Assam mail is run *via* Parbatipur, it must cover the same ground as is covered already by the Darjeeling mail and by the train which serves the railway connections in the Katihar direction, and thereafter from Parbatipur to Kaunia it would serve a line of only 22 miles with 4 stations. It seems not unreasonable, therefore, for the Railway Company to divert the mail *via* Bogra. Colonel Browne tells me, however, that by next July he hopes to have the new line from Sara to Santahar completed, and that he will then be able to provide special through carriages for the convenience of passengers travelling between Rangpur and Calcutta and in this way he will meet at least part of your difficulties.

Your late Collector, Mr. De, told me of the urgent need for improved drainage in and about the town of Rangpur. I am glad to hear that the Municipality and the District Board are co-operating in this matter.

The scheme has not yet reached the Government, but I hope its submission will be expedited. In ordinary circumstances the Government grant to such projects does not exceed one-third of the total cost; but your efforts to help yourselves in the past by the construction of canals—which through no fault of yours have become inoperative—lead me to think that you deserve special consideration. In any case when your scheme is approved by the Sanitary Engineer, and when you have, by your proposals for financing it, shown that you are ready to do all you can to help yourselves, Government will give you a substantial grant towards the execution of the project.

I am afraid I cannot give the members of the District Board a favourable reply to their request for the services of an Assistant Surgeon at each subdivisional head-quarters. The same request has been made to me in other districts. The Sub-Assistant Surgeon does the Government work, and his services are available for the local dispensary on payment of an allowance of Rs. 120 per annum. The services of an Assistant Surgeon would cost you, I am told, Rs. 2,796 per annum, and there are few municipal dispensaries that can afford to pay so much. I am told there are at Kurigaon and Gaibandha private practitioners of the same standing as Assistant Surgeons, and perhaps if it becomes known that there is a demand for such a professional man at Nilphamari, you may be able to find a private practitioner willing to take up his residence there also. I sincerely hope you may.

The question of the light railway to which the District Board refers has never come before the Government, but I shall ask the Chief Engineer to inquire of the Railway authorities about your proposal.

I am glad to hear your appreciative words on the transfer of the Public Works Cess. My colleague, the Hon'ble Nawab Syed Shamsul Huda, held conferences in all Divisions with the representatives of the District Boards, and it was finally decided that no restriction should be placed on the grant for this year. The question of earmarking a portion of the cess in future years will be carefully considered, and in doing so I have no doubt that the Hon'ble Nawab will take into account the needs of each district.

The addition to your revenues will help you to improve the sanitation and water-supply in rural areas. The sixteen Unions to which you refer will give you a good foundation for solid work in the villages, and I hope you will be able to give the Unions funds sufficient to encourage the people to carry out local village schemes. It is only by interesting the people themselves that we can hope for solid progress. The water survey when completed will be invaluable in enabling the District Board to draw up a line of policy; but the carrying out of actual village schemes must depend for success on the interest taken in them by the local people. There is no better way of encouraging the people to educate themselves to appreciate better sanitation and better drinking water than by placing within their grasp the means to attain these benefits.

I am glad to hear that education has made great progress in this district. In the last address you asked me to support a scheme for

establishing a college at Rangpur and you referred to the generous promise of Babu Ananda Mohan Ray Chaudhuri. I am not much in favour of establishing second-grade colleges. It seems to me that in such institutions the student's career is too often interrupted just at the time when he ought to be in the full swing of his work and when he ought to be an influence for good on the younger under-graduates, and I am not at all certain that you could maintain a first-grade college without more assistance from Government than could be given to you at the present time. The Government has large schemes in hand in this Division for the extension of the Rajshahi College and the improvement of the Pabna College, and I cannot help thinking it might probably be well to postpone the scheme for establishing a first-grade college at Rangpur. However, in accordance with your wish the question will be examined by Mr. Hornell and a report submitted to Government, and action will depend on that report.

I made inquiries from Mr. Hornell concerning the request of the district branch of the All-India Moslem League for grants for the construction of hostels for Muhammadan students at Gaibandha, Nilphamari, and Kurigaon; and I learn from him that you have not as yet approached his department in the matter. Government is constantly making grants for the provision of hostels in connection with high schools, and I am sure that any proposals which come from Rangpur will be sympathetically considered by Mr. Hornell.

Your late Collector, Mr. De, when I saw him last in Darjeeling, spoke to me of the work of the Rangpur Branch of the Sahitya Samaj, in which he is greatly interested. There is much to be done in the field of oriental research which such local branches of the parent samaj can undertake, and such work commands the sympathy of all those interested in the literature and history of the country. The Government already treats with some generosity the parent society in Calcutta. It would be difficult for the Government to give annual grants to the branches, and I would suggest rather that applications for assistance to special items of research work should be made through the parent body.

It has given me great pleasure to hear how much you have appreciated the work of Mr. De. I am sorry for your sakes that it was deemed necessary to transfer him from a sphere where his work was so much appreciated; but you will realise that the transfer was made only because his services were required in a larger sphere. I feel sure that in Mr. Gupta you will find a worthy successor, and I am certain that the same cordial relations which existed between you and Mr. De will continue between you and Mr. Gupta.

Gentlemen, I thank you on behalf of myself and of Lady Carmichael for the cordial reception you have given to us on this our first visit to Rangpur.

***His Excellency's reply to the Addresses presented at Bogra,
on 19th November 1913.***

GENTLEMEN,

I acknowledge with pleasure the expressions of devotion and loyalty to His Majesty the King-Emperor which you have made on behalf of the people of Bogra. Everywhere I find evidence of how greatly His Majesty's visit to India (to which you have just referred) has strengthened the bond which exists between the Sovereign and his beloved Indian people.

I thank you for the hearty welcome you have given to myself as the Governor of this Province and to Lady Carmichael.

Many officers whom I have met have spoken to me of Bogra, and when I made arrangements to visit the districts of the Rajshahi Division, I determined to spend at least one day amongst you. I would gladly have spent a longer time here, but this tour has been an extended one, and I have to content myself with less than my inclination suggested.

You tell me that the district has not had to bear the burden of political crime. I rejoice with you that this should be so. There is nothing which hampers district administration more, or which hinders development more than the strain of dealing with outbreaks of crime, whatever their nature or cause.

I gather from the words you have addressed to me and also from what I have heard concerning the circumstances of this district, that the arrangements which formerly existed for the administration of justice, whether criminal or civil, have been a source of much inconvenience to you. I am told that many have preferred to forego their claims, or at least a part of them, rather than face the difficulties of conducting litigation at a place so distant as Pabna. This is a state of affairs which, as you rightly say, demands immediate attention. The late Government of Eastern Bengal and Assam, with the approval of the Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court, sanctioned, as an experimental measure, the transfer of one of the Subordinate Judges from Pabna to Bogra, and I gather that in your opinion the experiment proved successful. I am awaiting a report on the experiment from the Hon'ble ~~the~~ Judges, and when it is received, the matter will have my personal attention, and I hope to be able to help you by stationing a Subordinate Judge permanently at Bogra with the powers of an Assistant Sessions Judge. This will, I understand, in great measure remove your difficulties.

My attention was drawn to the memorial which you submitted in 1900 to the late Sir John Woodburn proposing an extension of the boundaries of the district. You placed a similar proposal before Sir Bamfylde Fuller in 1906. The tendency of the present day is all

in favour of breaking up large charges with a view to render their administration more efficient, and I cannot hold out any hope to you that the boundaries of your district will be extended. I hope, however, to remove two of the causes which lead you to desire such extension. As I said a moment ago, I hope to be able to give you the services of a permanent Subordinate Judge, and thus to improve the efficiency of judicial administration. In the second place I hope that the grant to the District Board of the Public Works Cess will remove any difficulties you may have had in dealing with comprehensive schemes of public utility. The District Board will have more money to spend, and will, I hope, be able to take up large schemes for sanitary improvement.

The members of the District Board and the Municipality in their address referred to the subject of railway extension within the district. So far as I am aware no project for connecting Bogra with the broad-gauge line, which is about to be built between the new bridge over the Gauges at Sāra and Sirajganj, has yet been considered. The bridge and this new line will have a marked effect on railway development within the Rajshahi Division. I shall forward the request which you have made to the Railway Board so that they may have it before them when they consider future extensions.

I hope you will take the opportunity of my presence among you to explain to me your project for the extension of the town. I understand that you have not yet prepared any estimate for the proposed bridge over the Karotoya and the road to which you refer. If, on examination, your rough estimate of Rs. 40,000, prove accurate, it might be well for you to consider whether you could not, with advantage to the town, borrow a large portion of this sum from Government. Your financial condition is, I hear, good, but I will willingly consider what assistance the Government can give you if your resources are not adequate. Meanwhile, I advise you to draw up a definite scheme with an estimate, and to submit this to Government with your proposals for financing it.

Members of the Muhammadan Association, I thank you also for your most cordial welcome to us on behalf of the Muhammadan community. I am glad to see that along with the members of your community in neighbouring districts you are anxious that your children should have the benefit of higher education. I hope to be able to give you some aid in providing a new building for your Madrassa. Mr. Hornell, however, tells me that your scheme has not yet reached the Education Department. With regard to your request for a grant to aid the Kalai School, I would advise you to make an application to the Education Department as early as possible. The Government of India recently made grants for the spread of higher education; and if your scheme is approved by the Education Department, I see no reason why you should not participate in these grants.

Gentlemen, I thank you again for your kindly welcome to myself and Lady Carmichael. We are looking forward to making the acquaintance of many of you during the course of to-day.

Presentation of Kaiser-i-Hind Medal to Lieutenant-Colonel Peters.

LIEUT.-COLONEL PETERS,

I congratulate you on the honour which has been bestowed upon you and I have much pleasure in decorating you with this *Kaiser-i-Hind* Medal. You served the Government faithfully and well for many years, and since you retired, in 1899, you have added to the esteem you had won in the eyes of all by settling down in the town of your birth and giving to all who came to you the advantage of your medical knowledge free of all charge. Such unostentatious charity is well worthy of recognition by Government. May you be spared for many years to help your fellow-men.

His Excellency's Speech on the occasion of the laying of the Foundation-stone of the Dinajpur High English School, on 14th November 1913.

MR. EZECHIEL, MAHARAJA BAHADUR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It gives me great pleasure to assist in this ceremony to-day and to be associated with the project which shows how much the people of this district appreciate a good education. The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon, when he returned from his visit to this district last month, told me of the interview he had with the Managing Committee of the new zilla school, and he told me how enthusiastic you all were. You have got an excellent class of land here: I understand that it is proposed to take up about 5 acres. The situation is good: it is not too close to the centre of Dinajpur, and yet it is near enough to be convenient for the boys. Mr. Lyon told me about your schemes for a technical branch, but I understand that you have not yet worked out the details of this future development. I would give you one piece of advice in connection with it. Be careful to see that the technical education which you give your boys is such as is likely to help them to obtain immediate employment. I am all in favour of teaching boys elementary science and of giving them a manual training as part of their ordinary curriculum. Such a training develops a boy's intelligence in a way that nothing else can do,—makes him quick, accurate, and resourceful; able to use his hands and to apply his knowledge: but it is not fair to a boy to turn his whole life into a new channel by technical education unless you can at the same time point out to him an avenue of employment. I would recommend you to be content for the present to build and equip a model high school and then to develop the institution gradually. I have no doubt in the future you will want hostel accommodation, a manual training shop, and possibly a gymnasium; and it would be a good thing to lay out your land so as to allow for such future developments: but in the meantime begin by concentrating your efforts on organising the school well. The Maharaja Bahadur with his usual generosity has given you a handsome grant of Rs. 20,000, and other friends have helped you with similar donations. After such proof of local interest you will not find the Government behindhand in assisting you, and I can promise you a substantial Government grant to enable you to complete the school building. I shall now proceed to lay the foundation-stone.

His Excellency's Speech at the Durbar on the occasion of the Installation of His Highness the Maharaja Jitendra Narayan Bhup Bahadur of Cooch Behar, on 17th November 1913.

HIS EXCELLENCY CHARLES BARON HARDINGE OF PENSHURST, VICEROY AND GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA, having been pleased to recognise His Highness Maharaja Jitendra Narayan Bhup Bahadur as Chief of the Cooch Behar State, it is now my solemn duty, as Governor of the Presidency of Fort William in Bengal, to instal him in the high position held, till his lamented death, by his late Highness Maharaja Raj Rajendra Narayan Bhup Bahadur, and to transfer formally to the personal rule of His Highness Maharaja Jitendra Narayan Bhup Bahadur, the State of Cooch Behar.

MAHARAJA JITENDRA NARAYAN BHUP BAHADUR,

I speak to you now with mixed feelings. I rejoice indeed to know that I am addressing one so loyal as you are to the Throne and Person of our beloved King-Emperor, and that I am calling to the place, which those who have gone before you filled so well, one to whom the Viceroy and Governor-General of India may look with confidence for support as surely as His Excellency Lord Hardinge may at all times look to you.

Yet none the less I cannot keep my thoughts from going back to the moment when, not very many weeks ago, you cabled to me the news of the death of your brother, the late Maharaja Raj Rajendra Narayan Bhup Bahadur. That news came to me as a shock, for although I knew only too well that your brother was ill, I had hoped that his visit to England might restore him to health. I had believed that he was recovering and I never thought that the end could be so near; but the news came to me as more than a shock; it brought me real grief; it told me of the loss of a friend. My acquaintance with your brother was but short. I met him for the first time at Darjeeling in the summer of last year, but I quickly learned to feel the charm of his personality, and to look on him with real affection. He often came to me for advice; he often spoke to me of his own difficulties and of his own aspirations. I know well how much he had the welfare of his State at heart; I know how eagerly he longed to do something for the happiness of his people. Few men can have known better than I do how hard he tried to do what he believed was his duty; perhaps none know better than I do how unselfishly he was preparing to make—and did make cheerfully and uncomplainingly, though in full knowledge of their seriousness—personal sacrifices in order that his own private comfort should not stand in the way of improvements in the internal administration of his State; and I can say with truth that I admired him for what I knew. While, therefore, I rejoice that it is my good fortune to instal you in a position which I trust will bring to you great and well-deserved honour, I cannot forget my sorrow that one, for whom and of whom I had hoped so much, should have been cut down in the prime of his life.

I need not remind you of the history of your State nor of the good work done by your father, the late Maharaja Nripendra Narayan Bhup Bahadur, for you know well what he did. His work your brother carried on with an ardent loyalty to your father's memory, and with a sincere desire to carry out your father's wishes. I now commend into your hands the State which they ruled so well, and I confidently look to you to try to ensure the happiness and contentment of its people whom they loved and who loved them, and who to-day are placed under your care. I cannot do better than remind you of the impressive words addressed to the late Maharaja by my colleague, the Hon'ble Sir William Duke, when he installed him just two years ago, and some of these words I shall now quote :—

“To you I would say that a young Ruler called to the administration of an important and progressive State takes up a burden which calls for sympathy as much as congratulation. His responsibilities are at least as great as his opportunities. Your father has kept the House for you; he has handed over to you a State prosperous, highly organised, and steadily developing. That progress must be maintained, and to secure it requires constant care and attention. But progress is not mechanical;—it must be kept in accord with the movement of the outside world;—and while the new Ruler can never hope to have a clean slate, but is bound by the state of development which he finds and the institutions of the State as he receives it, on the other hand the responsibility is on him to devise and shape a policy which will mould and guide the future development and progress of his State so that it may worthily maintain its rank and place amongst the constituents of the Empire. For this task Your Highness has the advantages of education, race, and a fine ancestral tradition. I can assure you that the sympathy and assistance of the Government will not be wanting; and I trust that when the time comes for you to lay down your charge, you will be able to look back upon a noble duty worthily performed.”

In every one of those ideas as expressed by Sir William Duke I heartily sympathise. Your Highness, I congratulate you upon your accession to your Principality. More than half a million of human souls are to-day committed to your trust. It is for you to discharge that trust well. It is for you to secure, in some measure at least, happiness and prosperity for that half million of souls. It is not a great deal that any one man can do in this world; but to an Indian Prince—perhaps more than to most individual men opportunity is given,—opportunity to help his people to improve their position, to secure better education for their children, better health, and better sanitary surroundings. And here in Bengal you have a singularly valuable opportunity of which I cannot but hope that one as loyal as you are, and who has been brought up as you have been brought up, will make full use: you can do something—perhaps you can do much—to maintain good feeling and to bring about a clearer mutual understanding between the people whom the Power which controls human affairs has made to dwell in this part of the earth and those other people whom the same Power has brought here to work with them for weal or for woe—but I trust for weal—in making the best of this Bengal which you

and I too, I hope, love so much, and of this India in whose history both peoples have a right to take pride, and for which our beloved Sovereign—the King and Emperor of both peoples—has such a warm affection. Your father did his best to promote that good feeling and to bring about that clear understanding; he did it throughout a wide area both here and in England. Your brother—in a shorter time and amid narrower limits—did what he could. May you continue their good work! May you act up to your traditions! May you be faithful to your trust! So that when it comes to you in the common fate to lay down your power, Indians and Englishmen alike shall rejoice even while they sorrow, as I both rejoice and sorrow to-day, in the knowledge that you have earned the commendation of your own conscience and the gratitude of posterity.

***His Excellency's Speech at the State Dinner at the Palace,
Cooch Behar, on 17th November 1913.***

YOUR HIGHNESS AND GENTLEMEN,

I thank you all for the cordial manner in which you have drunk my health, and I thank the Maharaja for the kind words which he used about my wife and myself. It is little more than six months since some of you drank my health and since the late Maharaja used equally kind words about us in this very room.

I shall never forget the happy time we spent in Cooch Behar last April. We came here at the invitation of Your Highness's brother and right royally did he entertain us. Little did we then think that it was the last time we would see him, or that I should so soon, as I have done this afternoon, instal you as Ruler in his stead. His unfailing courtesy, his tenderness of heart, his thoughtful kindness endeared your brother to us, as I am sure it endeared him to many, and I know Your Highness will appreciate my meaning when I say that the fact that you are his brother makes me more than willing to give to you any advice or any sympathy such as you have asked for from me. You have to-day taken on yourself great responsibilities, and I sincerely trust that you will prove a worthy successor to your brother and to your father. I believe you will: you have the traditions of your family and your house to live up to—and family traditions can do much for a man. You have the traditions of the school where you were educated to live up to: if you claim it as the best of schools, I for one shall not dispute the claim, for I know what it has done for many of my friends. You have the example of your father and the example too of that gracious lady—your mother—of whose work in furthering one of the objects you have set before yourself you have just reminded me; and—as you have also just told me—you have the support of another gracious lady whose family traditions and whose personal inclinations alike will render her an efficient helpmate in carrying out your aims. If you can secure to your people a pure water-supply and a sound education for women as well as for men, you will do much to help all who live in India, whether in your own State or outside of it.

I trust the occasion may never arise which shall put your promise of willing military service in battle to the test; but I assure you that I look on your promise as no empty boast, and that I believe you and your people would, if called upon, prove loyal and true supporters of Britain now, as your forbears have been in the past.

You have ready to assist you in your task many old and tried servants of your State; you have the full sympathy of the Government of India and of the Government of Bengal; and I am glad that you have with you at this juncture a man with the experience of my friend, Mr. Collin. You have known Mr. Collin since you were a boy, and I know how you will appreciate his help and advice in the difficult duties which you have to perform.

I did not myself know your father, but I have heard much of him and I can safely adjure you to follow in his footsteps. Your brother came freely to me for advice and for sympathy when he needed them: if ever you should feel that you too need it, I promise that so long as I am in India you may rely on me to give you the best help I can.

In Cooch Behar you have scope for much good work, but you have scope too, I hope, for much enjoyment. In Cooch Behar, thanks to the kindness of your brother, I felt, for the first and only time, the thrill of pleasure that comes from hitting a tiger, and I felt too, for the first and only time, the pang of disappointment—almost the feeling of shame—that comes from missing one! I hope that Your Highness may be spared for many years to enjoy to the full the sport for which your State is so widely famous; and that in the intervals between those jackal shoots to which all London Society is longing to be asked, you may often feel the pleasure which I felt, and may seldom if ever experience the disappointment which I experienced, on the two occasions to which I have referred.

And now I hope Your Highness will allow me to refer in a word and with all respect to the lady who will share with you your joys and your sorrows, your responsibilities, and I hope your triumphs. We welcome her to our midst. We trust that she may find among us in Bengal many friends ready to appreciate the encouragement which she means to give to all that makes for progress; and we hope that both she and Your Highness may long continue to rule over the hearts as well as the destinies of the people of Cooch Behar, and to occupy a large place in the esteem of all who care for the true welfare of India and the honour of our King-Emperor.

Gentlemen, I ask you all to rise and drink to the health of Their Highnesses the Maharaja and the Maharani of Cooch Behar.

***Speech of His Excellency at St. Andrew's Day Dinner, Town Hall,
Calcutta, on 29th November 1913.***

FIRST of all I must read you a telegram received by me to-day:—

“LORD CARMICHAEL,

Governor of Bengal, Governor's Camp.

“Please convey to the loyal Scots of Calcutta my cordial greetings and my best wishes for a happy evening. I am looking forward with pleasure to being amongst them towards the end of next month—VICEROY.”

I am sure you will allow our Chairman to reply to that telegram with true Scottish fervour.

And now Gentlemen,

It is my duty—my pleasant duty—to ask you to drink to the health of our guests. In doing so I suppose I must make a speech—which is not so pleasant to me at least. We have a good many guests,—about 60 I think, all of whom either are or are some day going to be distinguished men. When I saw a list of their names, what first struck me was—some of these men are Scotsmen, surely they are members of our Society. I was right they are Scotsmen, they are members of our Society, but as they are also holders of positions which we think honourable and we to-night ask them to be our guests, I shall say no more about them: indeed I shall say little about any individual guest: and shall only even mention one or two by name. One of these is a Scotsman, Mr. Stewart—Old Tom Stewart as you familiarly call him—who after a lengthy career in Calcutta retired and went home not long ago; his devotion to Calcutta and to this Society have made him come out here again expressly to be here to-night for the fortieth time at a St. Andrew's Dinner in Calcutta. Long may he live to attend St. Andrew's Dinners, and if he sometimes does this again in Calcutta, we shall be all the better pleased. Mr. Stewart is one who has sought out and has made many inventions; among other things he invented what, so I am assured, is the best existing form of gallows. I have myself no ambition to end my life upon the gallows, perhaps none of you have, but if it should fall to our lot to do so, I trust we shall meet our fate as calmly as many a Scot in bygone years met a similar fate at the hands of “our auld enemies,” and if only the gallows be of the pattern invented by Mr. Stewart, we shall at least be able to find a little comfort, for some of our last thoughts may be turned towards Calcutta and towards so kindly a Scot as Mr. Stewart is.

With regard to our other guests those who had not the good fortune to be born north of Tweed, we give them our fullest sympathy. They may not ask for our sympathy, but we are a generous race, and we give it them as freely and as ungrudgingly as we have given them of our Haggis and of our Whisky. We trust they have enjoyed this evening,

and we trust that they will often have pleasant thoughts about Scotsmen and about Calcutta. It may be that some of them—it may even be that some of ourselves—do not look on Calcutta as absolutely perfect. If we have been here for any length of time—not necessarily a very long while—I have not been very long here myself, though long enough to know that what I say is true—If we have been here for any length of time—we cannot help loving Calcutta, and feeling inclined when its faults are pointed out to us, to reply in the same strain as the lady of large dimensions who, when asked about her health, replied “I am far oure muckle noo to be weel a’over at ae time.” Calcutta, whatever else she may be, is beyond doubt the largest city in India. She has her faults, but I do not know that they are more numerous or more important than those of other Indian cities. They are numerous enough to give Englishmen an excuse for indulging in their hereditary habit of grumbling at petty inconveniences, and they are important enough to make Calcutta Scotsmen determined that some day when they have nothing more immediately important to attend to, they will help her to remove them. I admit for instance that when driving or walking along certain roads not far from where I live, I do occasionally wonder whether the Indian sun makes horses less sure-footed than they are in England or in Australia or whether it may not be possible that the art of road-making has not been brought to the same perfection in the second city of the Empire which has been attained in certain lesser cities with which I am familiar. And more than once as I motored back from Tollygunge and found my economical Scottish soul vexing itself over the probable extent of my tyre bill or wondering what fees an I. M. S. Oculist may expect, I have tried to console myself by recalling the sacredness of Jerusalem of old, for when I listen to her citizens speaking of Calcutta, and note how they love her, I can think of no apter parallel than the love which the Jews had for Jerusalem, at least if there be truth in the words of old psalm—

“ Her sons take pleasure in her stones,
Her very dust to them is dear. ”

But joking apart, I am sure our guests must feel that Calcutta is a good place to dwell in, and that the Calcutta Scots are doing and will do their best to make it better.

Among our guests there are eminent Churchmen interested in all that advance the moral or spiritual welfare of the fellow-citizens. There are men whose daily work is to secure the material improvement of the city, to beautify it, or to increase its commerce and its industry. We have other guests like the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur or like the Sheriff who belong to the country in a more intimate way than we, members of our Society, can. I can only hope that they all have the good of Calcutta as much at heart as I hope we have, and I trust I can assure them that they will always find us ready to co-operate with them. There is one guest however to whom I must specially refer—for he will have the pleasure of replying for them all. I mean Sir Reginald Craddock—a member of the Government of India. I well remember the St. Andrew’s Dinner last year; I felt very nervous at that dinner: it was

the first important social function at which I had to speak as Governor of Bengal. I remember I felt tempted to point out that while Scotsmen are usually found as prominent members of the Government in every part of the British Empire, there was one Government where they were conspicuously absent. I refrained, for I felt that I ought to be careful of my words. I had been told that a feeling existed which I hardly then understood of jealousy between Calcutta and Delhi—which was jealous of the other I did not know any more than I care now. I then merely suspected what I am convinced of now that those whom an unhappy fate had led, on the call of duty, to forsake Calcutta, deserved our warmest sympathy, and I had no wish to add, however slightly, to their grief. I do not know whether Sir Reginald Craddock is in his heart of hearts sorry that he is not a Scotsman—I dare say he is, but I know, that he is far too good an Englishman ever to admit it. I gladly welcome him—we all gladly welcome him here as our guest—as an Englishman—and as a member of the Government of India. I would say to Sir Reginald Craddock that we have the liveliest feelings of affection and admiration both for him and for the Government to which he belongs. We are glad he is here to-night; we hope he will often be in Calcutta; and if there is in our gratitude towards his Government,—as possibly there is in most gratitude—some trace of a lively sense of favours to come, I am none the less sure that we admire the members of that Government when they honestly do their best for what they believe are the true interests of India, and I can promise him that, however critical we may be—and we shall be very critical, both he and all his colleagues may confidently look for support from Scotsmen whether in Calcutta or anywhere else in carrying out in India a policy based on that love of right and of evenhanded justice which we believe have made Scotland what she is.

His Excellency's Speech on the occasion of Opening the King Edward Memorial Operation Room at the Howrah General Hospital, on 8th December 1913.

COLONEL NOTT AND GENTLEMEN,

It gives me great pleasure during my visit of inspection to take part in this ceremony. I can imagine no more useful and appropriate memorial to our late King, His Majesty Edward the VII, than the erection and equipment of this up-to-date operation-room. As you all know one of the greatest interests of His Majesty's private and public life was the provision of facilities for the treatment of the sick. An up-to-date operation-room was very much needed for this hospital, and I am glad that it has been provided through the liberality of the people of Howrah. I am told that the hospital is specially indebted to Rai Jyot Kumar Mukharji Bahadur and Rai Biseswar Lal Halwasiya Bahadur for their generous aid. I have much pleasure in declaring the King Edward Memorial Operation Room opened.

His Excellency's Speech at the Opening of the New Ram Mohan Library Building, on 9th December 1913.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am here because I sympathise with your energetic Secretary in his hope that this institution may have a prosperous and useful career. Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to be associated with institutions which are the direct outcome of private initiative. Your Patron, the Hon'ble Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan, and Your President, the Hon'ble Mr. Sinha, both told me about this library. You kindly asked me to be present at the laying of the foundation-stone last year. I was sorry that I could not accept that invitation, and I was glad when the Maharaja asked me to be present at the opening ceremony to-day.

I had heard the name of Raja Ram Mohan Roy long before I had any idea that I would one day see the land of his birth. He was, I believe, the first of the many learned and eminent Indians who have been to England, and his visit to London must always remain a landmark in Indian history. What he did to bring about the abolition of the practice of *Sati* is too well known to need to be recalled; that has made him well known wherever interest is taken in India; but that is not his only claim to be remembered. As my friend, Mr. Bradley-Birt, says in his fascinating book "Twelve Men of Bengal," he "was not only enabled to interpret England to India, he did the even greater service of interpreting India to the English" and "he may well be called the first Ambassador of India to the English people." Since I came to India I have had opportunities of hearing and reading about his life and work. He was a great man and a good man; a man, whose influence is felt in India to the present day and whose influence will continue to be felt. No man can prevent his real character from doing its work even after he is gone. Raja Ram Mohan Roy was a man whose character could only do good work. He was the first of those many leaders who have advocated and still advocate the spread of modern education among their fellow-Indians. He saw with prophetic vision some of the great social problems in the midst of which we now are, and he believed that these problems could not be solved without the spread of education: he believed that the work of the few could do little to elevate the people, to make them morally and physically better men and women: to ease their sufferings and make their lives more happy and contented. He saw that improvement could not come of itself, that it could not come without great economic changes and that these economic changes were not possible without the education of the masses, and he worked hard and made others work hard for that. Indians must feel proud when they remember how broad-minded he was, how self-effacing he was, how he cared little who should do a thing but much that a thing should be done; Englishmen should be proud when we remember how he sought for our co-operation. Mr. Bradley-Birt in his book I have quoted points out that it was greatly due to Raja Ram Mohan that Dr. Duff came to

Calcutta. As a Scotsman I am grateful to him for that. A saying of his quoted by Mr. Bradley-Birt "Cows are of different colour, but the colour of the milk they give is the same" often comes in to my mind when I think of the things which are most needed here.

To such a man there can be no more fitting memorial than a library of well-chosen books to which all who care to come may have access; and I trust that the spirit of Ram Mohan Roy will enter into the lives of those who come to this institution for light and learning.

In Calcutta, there is room for many public libraries. I doubt if the establishment of good libraries is anything like keeping pace with the spread of education and yet they ought to follow naturally, for when a man is taught to read intelligently, the first thing he desires is a supply of literature: a taste for good books is as easily cultivated as a taste for bad books, and if a man has facility of access to good literature, he will naturally cultivate a taste for it.

I hope, therefore, that you will make the Ram Mohan Library a model to be followed by other districts in Calcutta: a model in building, I feel sure, it is at present. Make it also a model in selection and in classification—good scheme of classification doubles the utility of a library. I hope, too, that here in this room you will be able to have lectures—not mere over-learned disquisitions—but lectures such as will draw the reading public to the library, such as will encourage them to make use of it—lectures which will help the student in his work and guide him in the use of books of reference and in his general reading—lectures which will show the professional man or the business-man of what great use the library can be to him—lectures which will encourage the general reader to come into touch with great lives through the works of great writers. When we meet a great man, we look upon it as a privilege to listen to his conversation. Through a man's writings every one, even the least of us, can listen to his greatest thoughts. In this way this institution will, I hope, become an inestimable boon to the people of the north of Calcutta.

To carry this out you must have funds. The Secretary has told us how much you have collected and of the generosity of individuals, such as my friend the Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan. He has also told us how much you still need. I commend your appeal to the public, and I hope you will commence it at once. I myself will give you Rs. 2,500.

Gentlemen, I thank you for giving me this opportunity of associating myself with the opening ceremony of the Ram Mohan Library.

***Speech by His Excellency at the Unveiling of the Statue of Lord Clive
at Belvedere, on 16th December 1913.***

LADIES, YOUR HONOUR AND GENTLEMEN,

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Victoria Memorial Hall I welcome you. I am glad you have come here, for I look on your coming as an earnest of the interest you take in the Victoria Memorial Hall itself.

I shall not say much about the Memorial. Many of you know more of its past history than I do. Some of you may have noted with satisfaction signs of its recent progress; I hope that all of you are as anxious as I am to see its completion.

But even the most sanguine of us cannot hope to see that for some years, so I trust you approve of what the Trustees have done in securing Belvedere as a temporary home for a collection which will, they hope, help to make the Memorial Hall one of the chief among the many attractions of Calcutta. I feel sure that when you have seen the objects as they are now shown here, and recall how they used to look in the Museum, your appreciation of Dr. Denison Ross, of Mr. Charles Kesteven and of Sir Harry Stephen will be even greater than it already is, for it is to their skill and to their care, helped as they were by Mr. Gupte and Mr. Harington, that the present arrangement is due; and I hope those of you who can, will mark your appreciation by assisting them to make the collection even better than it now is. You may not—most of you—be able to contribute objects yourselves, but the opportunity may come to you of getting others to contribute, and if you can help by eloquent words or by the even more ~~aff~~ective argument—which many of you are so well able to use—the argument, which comes from personal charm, you will not only win the gratitude of the Trustees, but will add for all time to the lustre of Calcutta. But, besides coming here to see Belvedere opened as a temporary Museum, we have come to support Sir Charles Bayley in unveiling a statue in honour of one who made it possible for Calcutta to be the pleasant place which we now know.

Clive did much for the British Empire, that is why we erect a statue of him; he also did much for us personally, that is why we are glad that our friend, Sir Charles Bayley, a collateral descendant of the great man, has come here to unveil the statue for us.

Some of you may remember that a well-known humourist expressed the opinion that it is fortunate that Clive cannot come back to Calcutta, for if he did so, he might be bitterly disappointed in realising that a certain monument, which rises like a giant candlestick from the Maidan, was not erected in memory of Plassey. Mark Twain tells us how "Everyday Clive and Hastings lean on the battlements of Heaven and look down and wonder which of the two the monument is for." If this be so, Warren Hastings may, perhaps, be happier

to-morrow, especially if he appreciates the innate modesty of Scotsmen as much as Mark Twain did who assures us that Ochterlony would neither have expected nor desired to have a monument to himself "Until Clive and Hastings should be supplied." However this may be, we certainly cannot accuse the people of Calcutta of undue haste in allowing 140 years to pass since the death of the founder of British rule in Bengal before putting up a monument to him. Clive is one of Britain's heroes, there is no gainsaying that, and we must honour him as the man to whom more than to any other we owe the brightest jewel in the Imperial Crown.

By the middle of the eighteenth century the Moghul Empire had become too heavy a burden for the house of Tamerlane. That house, after producing more geniuses than any other dynasty known to history, had then begun to decline, and it was clearly inevitable that India must fall into the hands either of France or of England. It was Clive who decided the question. He decided it in a manner fortunate—as we all admit—for England; and fortunate too—as I would fain believe—for India. Clive's victories resulted not merely in an acquisition of territory by England, but were in a very true sense a conquest of Indian territory for Indians; the course of events since his time has made, and will continue to make this even clearer. If Clive had been an Asiatic instead of an European, he might well have been regarded as the saviour rather than as the conqueror of Bengal; and I for one believe that some day all will recognise that he—perhaps unwittingly, but all the same most effectively—made the self-realisation of Bengal possible.

The English came to India not as Alexander or many others did, as conquerors with vast hordes of fighting men in their train. They came as traders, just as much as any man does who comes here to-day to make money in jute or piece-goods. Circumstances changed them from traders into conquerors, as they changed Clive from a writer into a soldier. Little can Clive have imagined when he landed, as a boy of twenty, at Madras, that he was destined to serve his country with the sword, nor can he have thought when he sailed up the Hooghly with Admiral Watson in October 1756, that his small force was to make him arbiter of the fate of Bengal. But Clive was one who knew how to seize on opportunities and make use of them. He was a man of whom his fellow-countrymen may well be proud. That a Madras writer should have risen to the highest eminence as a soldier is a thing to wonder at, that his military skill should have won for his fellow-countrymen the position in India which they still hold, is a thing to be proud of. That he should have shown himself as great in Council as he was on the field,—that he should have been able as an Administrator to consolidate the possessions he won as a soldier are things over which we rejoice both as Englishmen and as well-wishers to India.

There can be no two opinions about Clive's greatness, whether as soldier or as statesman. We can hardly overestimate the worth of his services, even while we do not forget the other side of the shield, the one act of great injustice which he himself believed to be inevitable, and which was at least unconnected with personal gain.

Ethical standards change, public opinion shifts to a higher basis—let us at any rate hope so as time goes on. In Clive's day it was looked on as the privilege of all and sundry in India to accept pecuniary favours, though even then the practice was severely criticised in England. Clive doubtless reaped a rich harvest, but he did what he could during his last year in Bengal to atone for the past, by making it difficult—well nigh impossible for Englishmen in the service of the Company to do any longer those things, for doing which he had himself been held up to obloquy.

He complained that he had been treated like a sheep-stealer by the House of Commons; and through a long period of persecution—not certainly entirely disinterested—he expiated to the full whatever human frailty he had shown in the face of temptations such as have seldom crossed the path of any man. As every school-boy knows, he was amazed at his own moderation, and it may be well for our national pride that such temptations come not to many.

Clive assuredly did endear himself to others. It is surely not without significance that, in spite of the way in which his name was reviled, it has ever since his time been a favourite first name among Englishmen. We can all of us think of many more boys and men named Clive than we can of Nelsons or of Wellingtons. We all remember the self-denial of his sepoy at the siege of Arcot, creditable alike to the people of India and to himself. The Muhammadan Viceroy, Mir Jafar, left five lakhs by his will to the English Governor Clive—some of us would be glad if we could inspire such disinterested personal regard! The letters of welcome which he received from all sides on his return to Bengal in 1765, amply prove that Clive, at any rate, knew how to win devotion from people not of his own race.

The times have long since gone by when Britain's sons were called on to do work for Britain such as Clive did, much of the kind of work done by such men as Dalhousie and Wellesley—whose statues stand here on either side of Clive—is no longer needed, but there is work quite as noble—though not perhaps so showy as theirs was—waiting for men—aye and for women too—to do if they but will. India—Bengal—is not yet fully subdued for England or for India. Both peoples have a right to ask that the spirit which inspired these great men should—in the interest of both peoples—continue to be active in many far-reaching channels. To quote but three instances, the man who will add even a single foot to the average length of the jute grown in Bengal, the man who will teach us how better to combat malaria, still more the man—or the woman—who successfully teaches that self-reliance is more valuable than book-learning, will nobly carry on Clive's work, for he will bring to greater fulness what Clive—perhaps unconsciously—began; and will help Englishmen and Indians alike to make of this rich land a place from which the whole world shall reap benefit.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, I need say no more; I merely ask Sir Charles Bayley to unveil the statue of his kinsman, and thus discharge a debt long overdue to the memory of a great Englishman.

His Excellency's Speech on the occasion of the laying of the Foundation-stone of the Calcutta Club Building, on 19th January 1914.

SIR RAJENDRA NATH MOOKERJEE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

When I arrived in Bengal, one of the first things which greeted me was a letter from Mr. Justice Stephen, asking me to dine with the members of the Calcutta Club. I was not able to take advantage of your kindness then, for I could not stay in Calcutta. But not long after—in July 1912—you did entertain me and I heard of your new building scheme; I have watched its progress with increasing interest ever since. I congratulate you on having brought the scheme to fruition, and I am very glad that I have to-day laid the foundation-stone, for I sympathise thoroughly with the aims of the Club, and I believe you are right in the bold step you are taking. Briefly stated, the aim of the Club is to ensure friendly intercourse between Europeans and Indians. That it seems to me is a noble aim. For friendly intercourse makes it easier for Europeans and Indians to unite in work. Europeans and many Indians can meet in the Club as friends: we can discuss things and get to understand each other's point of view. It is true that there are many Indian gentlemen whom it is a privilege to any one to know, and whose views are deserving of very great consideration, who are not able to make use of the Calcutta Club—for the common ground in the club is a Western one, the acceptance of Western habits, not of oriental habits, but there are very many Indians who can, and who do make use of it. In the club more unofficial Indians probably have an opportunity than anywhere else of meeting with official Europeans on terms of equality. That is in itself good. I shall not dwell much on the point, but speaking as Governor I feel that within the club much can be done, and I hope will be done for Bengal. In the club, perhaps better than anywhere else, some of the leaders of Bengali opinion can learn to realise that it is by their self-realisation, not by their self-effacement that their fellow-countrymen will best carry out the spirit which has on the whole inspired England's policy here, and in the club, perhaps more easily than anywhere else, Englishman can learn why Bengalis are sometimes slow to realise this. If once both people appreciate each other's aims, and understand each other's difficulties, we go a long way towards ensuring success.

Ladies and gentlemen, you have just heard the history of the Club. I shall not refer to it in detail. I did not know the late Sir Charles Allen, or Mr. Justice Geidt, but I have the pleasure of knowing Mr. Milburn, who was the founder of the Union Club, where the idea of this Club originated; and we ought to-day specially to congratulate Sir Rajendra Nath Mookerjee and Mr. D'Arcy Lindsay, who were Joint-Secretaries from the beginning until quite recently. The work of these two gentlemen has been a labour of love, their efforts to make the Club a success have been unremitting. Their co-operation seems to me typical of the

aims and objects of the Club itself. It is a striking example—a splendid example—of the great value of a union of the races of the East and of the West, in carrying out projects for the benefit of the people of this land. The career of each of these men is typical of the success which can be achieved by such whole-hearted union in the commercial world, whether it be in carrying on the work of a great Insurance Corporation, or in organising the largest firm of contractors in the province.

In this Club, we have the fruit of the experience of these two men. They have proved that such an union of the races is not only possible, is not only desirable, but is as necessary to the social well-being of Indians as it is in the great world of trade and commerce, or in the administration of the country.

This ceremony to-day shows that the Calcutta Club is no longer an experiment. It has justified its existence and proved its worth. It did not create the desire for closer relationship between the East and the West, that desire had already existed—without that desire no real advance could have been made, but the Institution has shown that it can meet that desire and can advance and foster it, and the Club now takes its place alongside the other great social clubs of this city. This fact will attract many new applicants for membership, for with clubs as with men nothing succeeds like success. If anything beyond its aim is required to recommend it, the new Club can offer in addition a well-equipped and scientifically-planned building with all modern requirements, not the least of which will be a spacious garden where it will, I hope, hold many of these wonderful evening receptions which are famous far beyond Calcutta.

Many of the Chiefs of India are members of the Club, and the landholders of the province are well represented. A large number of members belong to the professional classes, and the representatives of the administration are a large and ever-increasing body. The mercantile community, both European and Indian, is also represented. I know from personal talks with merchants who are members that they value the opportunity afforded them by the Club, of becoming better acquainted with Indian gentlemen, particularly of the landholding and professional classes; more than one has told me he regrets that the advantages of the Club were not known to him at an earlier stage of his Indian career. To all classes I confidently commend the aims and objects of the Institution: from practical experience I feel sure that those who wish to take share in promoting those aims and objects will not be disappointed if they join the Club, and if there are any of my fellow-countrymen here, who do not at present feel any desire to share in this, I would ask them to remember the Club, if ever they do feel the desire. I am sure that those who join it will, not only while still in India, but afterwards when they retire to enjoy a well-earned rest, be grateful to the Institution, for they will be indebted to it for many friendly meetings with Indian gentlemen.

The Club has already a distinguished roll of Presidents, the great Maharaja of Cooch Behar, Mr. Justice Holmwood, the Maharajadhiraja of Burdwan, Sir Lawrence Jenkins, Mr. Sinha, Mr. Justice Stephen,

and to-day a citizen of whom Calcutta is justly proud—our friend, Sir Rajendra Nath Mookerjee.

Lord Minto took special interest in its welfare, our present Viceroy has given a donation to the building fund, and I know that he warmly appreciates the hospitality which has been extended by the members to himself and to Lady Hardinge on more than one occasion. I believe that hospitality has been appreciated not only by those whom it was the delight of the members to honour, but by the whole of Calcutta society, both Indian and European.

I am told some of you feared at one time that the administrative changes of 1912 would do harm to the Calcutta Club, but in this matter—as in some others—the alarmist has proved a false prophet. Personally I believe the change has been greatly to the benefit of the Club, for it is now clearly seen that it is not dependent for its success on the support of those to whom Calcutta was but a temporary, though I hope, a pleasing, place of sojourn. The Club is strong in the support of its own great city and of its own Province of Bengal.

I cannot sit down without referring to those who have shown their faith in the Club by subscribing handsomely towards its building fund. These men have enabled the President and the Committee to attain their object much sooner than would otherwise have been possible. They have done even more. They have enabled the President and the Committee to take advantage of—so to speak—the psychological moment: if they had not come forward just when they did, the Committee could not have taken the bold step they have done, and it is quite possible that through the termination of the lease of the present premises, the Club might for a time have been jeopardised and the right moment for taking the bold step deferred for many years. The list of subscribers is headed by the names of two men whose liberality and whose unceasing warm-hearted endeavours to promote the best relations between Indians and Europeans are well known—the Maharaja of Burdwan who has given Rs. 10,000 and the President himself, who has given Rs. 5,000. I hope others may still come forward to support these generous donors, and to help to relieve the Club, as soon as possible, of a building debt and so enable the Committee to extend its activities even more widely.

***Award of Medal and Diploma of the Nobel Prize,
on 29th January 1914.***

DR. ROBINDRA NATH TAGORE,

The formal presentation of the Nobel Prize took place, as you know, at Stockholm, on the 10th of December, when His Majesty the King-Emperor's Chargé d'Affaires received the Prize on your behalf from His Majesty the King of Sweden, and conveyed to him, as requested by you, your humble salutation. At a dinner on the evening of the same day, given in honour of the prize-winners, the British Chargé d'Affaires, in responding for you, expressed your regret at not being present and your thanks for the honour conferred on you and delivered a message from you to the Swedish Academy in which you conveyed your "grateful appreciation of the breadth of understanding which has brought the distant near and made of a stranger a brother." This personal message, which had not been expected, was greatly appreciated, and for it the President, in the name of the Academy, expressed his warmest thanks.

I congratulate you Dr. Robindra Nath Tagore, and I have the great pleasure of handing to you the gold medal and diploma of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Dinner of the Mining and Geological Institute, on 30th January 1914.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,

I thank you for the cordial manner in which you have drunk my health and I thank you, Mr. President, for the kind words you used when referring to me.

I was very sorry that I could not accept your kind invitation to dine with you last year—the date clashed with a previously-arranged visit to Dacca. The Government of Bengal was, however, well represented on that occasion, and so far as I could gather, the relations between your members and their guests were of the most cordial description.

From the very beginning Government officers have enjoyed, and greatly appreciated, your hospitality. The Viceroy himself was your guest two years ago. It seems unnecessary, therefore, for me to tell you how much importance Government attaches to your Institute, but I cannot help saying how pleased I was, as Governor, to listen to the good chit which you, Mr. President, give to Government. I think I may safely recommend all globe-trotters, especially if they are collecting information preparatory to writing a book, to visit Colonel Agabeg.

Only a small portion of the 'mineral wealth of India is found in Bengal, as now constituted. I know many of you desired that the boundaries of the Province should be extended so as to include more of the coal-fields, but as the Viceroy pointed out to you, when replying to the toast of his health two years ago, there were great difficulties in the way. Since then Government has carefully considered the representation on the subject, but came to the conclusion that the boundaries of Bengal must be left as they are. You loyally accepted that decision, and I am glad to hear that the difficulties you anticipated in working with two different administrations have not been so great as you thought they might be, and that where they have arisen they have largely been removed by the tact and common sense of my friend, Mr. Adams, the Chief Inspector of Mines. I feel sure too that common sense will always urge both the Local Governments to do their best to prevent any unnecessary friction. The two Governments have been working together in the most friendly way. I hope our friend, Sir Charles Bayley, is as satisfied with my Government as I am with his in this matter. We have published rules for the Boards of Health in Mining settlements which are identical for both areas; we have acted and are acting together in the matter of trying to improve the education and training of Mining Engineers, and we hope to establish a joint school of mines for Bihar and Orissa together with Bengal. In the Jheria Coal-fields I am glad to know that Sir Charles Bayley's Government is continuing the good work in the matter of water-supply which the Bengal Government began, and it was a great pleasure to my colleagues and myself to allow our Sanitary Engineer, Mr. Williams, to assist in working out plans and estimates. But although only a

small portion of the mineral field is within Bengal, the province which includes Calcutta must necessarily always be keenly interested in the Mining and Geological Institute.

You bring together in your membership Geologists whose knowledge is so useful in pioneer work; Mining Engineers who make available the mineral resources of India and the officers of Government who are responsible for the proper administration of the Mining Acts; you make it possible for these three classes to meet together not as different classes of officials, but as professional men to discuss openly and frankly their difficulties with each other and determine and, from different points of view, to find an answer to the same question how to adapt the great sources of power with which nature has provided this land, for the convenient use of man.

The transactions of your Institute already form a valuable technical library for practical miners in India. Text-books have at all times their value, but they must be supplemented by practical experience; as Colonel Agabeg said just now the mine is the real school for miners; but it is well that those who have learned its lessons should write them down and your successors will, I feel sure, be grateful to those who have left a record of the manner in which they have surmounted difficulties in the past. I notice that the institute, as a body, has paid many visits to Engineering, Mining and kindred works. I thank your President, Colonel Agabeg, for asking me to accompany the members when they go to inspect Messrs. Apcar & Co.'s coal-mines. I have been into many mines of different kinds, and it will interest me much to see an Indian coal-mine. So I most eagerly accept the invitation. I may say that the Institution has, in the opinion of Government, fully justified its existence. It has already realised the dreams of its founder, Mr. Pickering, whose tragic death in the execution of his duty we all deplore, and of its first President, Sir Thomas Holland. It deserves the support of all professional men interested in mining in India, and I am sure it has before it a great field of usefulness. I need not dwell on the importance of many of the questions with which it deals, not only those concerned with the direct handling of the minerals, especially of coal, but also with the improvement of the conditions of labour concerning which the Institute has already done much; and the education, not only of the officers of the mines, but also of the education of the colliers themselves, the absence of which must—and I was glad to hear you, Sir, dwell on this point—be a serious drawback to profitable working and often even a danger in mines. I have already referred to the Committee which was appointed, as you know, by the two Local Governments, to discuss particularly the establishment of a School of Mines, and the expansion and development of the existing system of evening classes in mining at Asansol. The report of that Committee has just been received, and Sir Duncan Macpherson—its Chairman—told me before he left, that the Committee had resolved to recommend the establishment of a School of Mines at Dhanbaid and that a scheme for this has been prepared. The Committee has also framed a scheme for improving the evening classes. These proposals have yet to be considered by the Government of Bengal: the cost of them will be very considerable, but you can rely on the

sympathetic co-operation in this matter of both Governments. I had an idea that you, Sir, might say some hard things about railway management. I almost suspect that some of your remarks may have come as a pleasant surprise to Mr. Highet on which I congratulate him. For my own part I was quite prepared to hear some criticism of the facilities for shipping coal here, in Calcutta—these facilities are not such as I would expect the shareholders in some of your companies to gloat over. But since you, perhaps out of kindness to me, said nothing about them, I need only say I hope the new Committee, which began its sittings a few days ago, may be able to help us to improve them. Before I give you the toast which I am to propose, I would like to add one word on behalf of Government of appreciation of the honorary work done by many of the mine managers and their assistants in the general administration of the province. In Colonel Agabeg, your President, we have an excellent example. He has given much of his leisure time to act as an Honorary Magistrate, and he has given the benefit of his valuable advice and counsel to the different local bodies. If he succeeds—as he told us he will—in lowering the tyre-bill of all those who use motors in his district, I feel sure that there will be many, even of those who do not use motors—who will wish there were more mine managers to help in local administration. It may not be out of place, too, if I refer here to what Colonel Agabeg has done in making the Volunteers an effecting force. He is not the only mining man who has done this; from what I hear I am inclined to think that mining men are very valuable in Volunteer camp. There was a camp at Purulia about a fortnight ago—in the other province—and I am told that that camp would have been a far finer thing had more Asansol men been present at it.

Gentlemen, as I said before the Institute has certainly justified its existence. I am sure it has a brilliant and useful future before it in promoting the interests of the mining industries of India. I confidently look to the same ready assistance being given in the future which is being given in the past to Government by the Mining Association and by the individual managers and assistants. The enforcement of sanitary rules and precautions, the payment of a cess on coal to enable the carrying out of a system of water-supply and similar things, may seem to me, as a Governor, very desirable, to me, as a man, who has taken a share in industrial work, they also seem to be things which may not always be welcome: and both as a man and as a Governor, I thank you for the way in which you have looked at these things, and I assure you your assistance can be most valuable in many matters to several departments of Government—not least to the Police—and my gratitude to you is all the greater; because I look forward into the future, as well as back to the past.

We all wish prosperity to those industries, and to all who are engaged in them. Colonel Agabeg referred to the heroism often shown in mines. I do not know Indian mines, but I do know mines and miners in other countries, and I have personally known many instances of that heroism, and that makes me all the more willing to ask you to drink with all your heart to the Mining Industries of India.

His Excellency's Speech at the Opening of the Co-operative Conference at Writers' Buildings, on 31st January 1914.

MR. LYON, MR. MITRA AND GENTLEMEN,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you here again and thus show you that I take a keen personal interest in the co-operative movement. I have watched the progress of your work since you conferred here last year.

I am a great believer in conferences—especially in conferences between officials and non-officials. Here you have practically a little parliament of representatives of all those most interested in the movement; each keen to tell his own experience and still keener to hear of the experiences of others. Your deliberations last year led to the adoption of a wise policy as a result and to much real progress being made.

I have watched your work with great interest. I need not go into details. You know the figures better than I do, but I am impressed with the wisdom of the policy of consolidation. It is far better to perfect the work in the old areas before you open out new ones. Yet I see that in spite of the efforts "to put on the brake" (as Mr. Mitra describes it in his report), the number of societies has increased by 20 per cent. and I notice that the membership has increased at double this rate and the capital of the societies has increased at four times this rate. This must mean that the old societies have been strengthened and that they are better able to finance their members in all their needs. Another fact which impressed me, when reading the report, is that there are practically no bad debts in the business of the societies. Out of a total of 12½ lakhs outstanding in loans, only Rs. 25,000 or two per cent. is overdue, and only a very small portion of this sum causes any anxiety.

I quite see that the time has come to consider the formation of a central financial agency for the whole province. When the papers came before me, however, I was of opinion that such a step must not be taken without full deliberation. The societies deal almost entirely with agriculturists; thus there is little elasticity in your finance. All your clients require money at the same time and there is one period in the year when the demand for loans is slack. I am told that to some extent that period coincides with the period in industrial centres when the demand for money is the greatest. What you want is an agency to bring together the financing of agriculture and the financing of commerce and industry. I agree with you in thinking that this agency should be built up upon a co-operative basis, but at the same time you must have the bankers and businessmen of this city to support the scheme. It was for this reason that I advocated the drafting of a complete memorandum on the subject, so that we might arouse the interest of those men whose help we so much need and get them to realise what an important step this is and how much the banking of Calcutta may in the future be affected. I believe that a bridge between the financing of agriculture and the financing of commerce and industries would be greatly to the benefit of the country at large.

The public in Europe have long realised the possibilities of co-operation, and the public in India are now fast realising that co-operation is no mere game. The results in India are now as important as the results in Europe, and the public are beginning to see that at last after many years the true cure of agricultural indebtedness has been found. I have spoken with many Indians who have pictured to me the poverty of the masses and have told me of the millions who cannot obtain more than one meal a day, and I have heard from them, too, of the millions who are on the verge of poverty to whom any rise in prices, consequent on a failure of crops, means actual want, for they have no capital to withstand it. Such an economic state cannot be cured by the executive action of a Government. It can only be cured by a great economic revolution, and here, I believe, in co-operation we have the beginnings of that revolution. We have the beginnings of a great movement which will not only bring wealth to the individual, but will teach him thrift with all its economic and moral advantages: and will teach him more, it will teach him to work gratuitously for the good of his fellow-men realising that his own salvation is bound up in the salvation of those around him. I believe that the young men of Bengal are ripe for such work. I know how they worked in the great floods in the Burdwan Division and how some of them are still working in the flooded areas of Midnapore. I then learnt what they were prepared to sacrifice for the good of others. In co-operation the young men have an almost unlimited field for such social service, and I appeal to them to make the most of it. It is not, perhaps, heroic work, but it is the quiet work of the multitude of men which brings about a great economic revolution. The General may lead the army, but without soldier in the ranks he can do nothing. Raiffeisan led the way in Europe, but he himself would have been the first to admit that it was the great army of silent workers who carried out the economic revolution in the German Empire.

I am glad to hear from the Registrar that he has received such hearty assistance from the public during the past year, and on behalf of the Government I thank you all who have come to attend this conference, and through you the great band of workers you represent. Particularly I would ask you to convey my thanks to the members of the *Bank-Panchayats* in the villages for the work they have done during the past year. I take this opportunity also of thanking the Collectors and Subdivisional Officers—particularly Messrs. Emerson, Strong, Bradley-Birt, Woodhead and Spry—for the encouragement they are giving to the co-operative movement in their districts.

I congratulate Mr. Mitra on the success of his labours. His report I found a most interesting document. I was struck with the mastery displayed therein of all branches of co-operative work. I was struck perhaps with the spirit of enthusiasm which the report breathes—a spirit which I am certain must affect all those with whom he comes in contact. Mr. Mitra has fully justified his selection for the appointment of Registrar, and I am satisfied that under his guidance the movement is developing on sound and healthy lines.

Gentlemen, I will now ask Mr. Lyon to take the chair, and so leave you to your labours.

His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Dinner of the Calcutta Trades Association, on 31st January 1914.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

At the annual dinner last year at which I had the honour of being present as one of your guests, your Master gave you the toast of Calcutta and its Trade. To-night I give you the toast of the body of men who are largely responsible for the building up of that trade—"The Calcutta Trades Association."

Some weeks ago your Master and Colonel Grice asked for an interview with me. I wondered whether they wanted to criticise the actions of the Government and how I was to meet them. But their business was of quite a different character. It was to invite me to dine with you, and I accepted the invitation with pleasure remembering the pleasant hours I had spent with you all a year ago.

I have not studied the history of your Association deeply. I do not propose to give you an account of your own history or to try to prove to you that I know all about you. I am told that the Association was founded so long ago as 1830, but it is sufficient for me that this is one of the great Associations in this city which enjoys the confidence of Government. I am told that the Association prides itself in the fact that it was recognised many years ago as "a public body with power to address Government direct." I am not sure that it would not be nearer the mark to describe it now as a public body with power to extract a reply out of Government.

The original objects of the Association were described very lucidly at the annual dinner last year by Colonel Grice. They are, if I remember rightly, self-preservation—always an excellent object—in this case as I understand self-preservation included a scheme for joint action in the collection of just dues from recalcitrant clients. I hope this object, however, is no longer necessary. The second aim was to assist the authorities when called upon on any subject of public interest which may be considered within the purview of the members.

I hope it is the second object with which I shall always be most intimately concerned. You are well qualified to express an opinion in much that concerns the Government of this country. Your experience is wide and varied. In your own affairs not only in Calcutta, but throughout India you are naturally deeply concerned, but as active citizens of this great city, you are well qualified to give advice in connection with matters of civic concern. Your Master has ungrudgingly given of his time, I am told, for over 20 years to serve as a Municipal Commissioner. But owing to your large interests throughout the Province, and in fact throughout India, you come in contact with many men and many opinions, and you are then in a peculiar position to give practical advice on questions of more widespread interest, and I am inclined to sympathise with one of your members who, I am told,

once said "No question affecting the welfare of the country—the public generally—and the members has been considered beyond the scope of the Association."

During the past year I see your Committee has dealt with such varied subjects as the Amendment of the Calcutta Municipal Act, the Congestion at the Jetties, Postal Facilities, Tar-macadam roads, Motor transport, the P. and O. Co. Mail contract, the Grand Trunk Canal project, and the scheme for a Technological Institute in Calcutta.

There are four points which I have noted in your replies. In the first place your letters are short and to the point. In the second place your facts are accurate. In the third place when you have no experience of a matter you frankly say so, and in the fourth place before you deal with a question I see you endeavour to get at the other man's point of view. I see from the Annual Report, that before you replied to Mr. Payne's enquiries you invited him round to discuss the subject of the Amendment of the Municipal Act, and that rather than enter into a lengthy correspondence on the subject of the registration of household servants, you went first to Sir Frederick Halliday and got from him the result of his experience, and again, when you thought that Government had made a mistake in the matter of the supply of certain miniature medals, you had a conference with Captain Willis—the Master of the Mint. In each case this practical course has led to excellent results. Although I find no reference to it in the Annual Report, I understand that you had Mr. Apcar too round to address you on the subject of the Loans Bill—I hope also with excellent results.

Any man noting these facts must pay attention to your representations and could not lightly set aside your advice. Your communications are full of practical wisdom of practical men, given frankly from the point of view which you represent. When I came first to Bengal I heard much from the officers around me of your Association and of the great part which the members of it have taken in all charitable and philanthropic work in this city, and of the generous monetary assistance which they have given to such movements. I know that the officers of Government have many friends amongst you, and now after my two years' experience I have learnt to know these things for myself and to count amongst my friends members of the Trades Association. I trust there will always be the same close confidence and co-operation between the Association and its members on the one hand and the Government and its officers on the other. Before I propose the toast, gentlemen, I would like to make reference to one whose name is in the thoughts of all the members on this occasion. Since the last dinner Mr. Hickie, who served you as Secretary for a period of 44 years, has retired, and I would like to associate myself with you in wishing him an happy rest after his labours.

Gentlemen, I give you the toast of the "Calcutta Trades Association."

***His Excellency's Speech at the Annual Meeting of the Asiatic Society,
on 4th February 1914.***

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I find that the addresses of the Presidents of the Asiatic Society have been of three kinds. In former years when men perhaps had more time to give to such things, the President's address used to be a history of the progress of science and literature throughout the world, or of such branches of these as particularly interested the members of the Society. Such were the addresses of Sir Alfred Croft, Director of Public Instruction in Bengal, and of that wonderfully versatile scholar, Sir Charles Elliott, who was Lieutenant-Governor of this province. An address of this kind has not been delivered since 1897. The second type of address dealt with some branch of knowledge, in which the President himself was an expert. Our late President, the Hon'ble Colonel Harris, addressed us last year on the progress of medical science, and men like Dr. Hoernle and Sir Herbert Risley contributed addresses which will always remain in the Society's archives as monuments of learning. The third type of address is a review of the work of the Society during the year. I wish it were possible for me to address you on that branch of science in which I am myself most interested, but my public duties have rendered it impossible for me to give the time necessary to the preparation of anything of the kind. I must, therefore, in this my first presidential address, fall back upon the third type, and merely review shortly the work of the Society during the past year.

Before I begin, however, I should like to thank the members for the honour they have done me in electing me to the proud position of the President of the premier Scientific Society in India—a Society, the work of whose members has been known and appreciated since the days of Sir William Jones, not only in India, but throughout the world. The number of members during 1913 is not so large as it was previously: we have now 499 members, compared with 517 last year. I trust that during the next year there will be a considerable accession to the membership, especially amongst the younger generation in the mufassal. In my tours throughout the province during the past two years, I have been interested to find how many of the younger generation, both officials and non-officials, are genuinely interested, especially in archæological matters. The membership of the Society, I believe, would do much to encourage and to guide these younger members in their researches. I was specially interested to find a genuine keenness for research work in the centres at Dacca, at Rajshahi and at Rangpur. In Dacca and in Rajshahi archæological museums have already been started, and when I visited Rangpur I was invited to view an excellent exhibition by the local Sahitya Parisad. These facts, I think, show an increasing interest in such matters—an interest—which, if cultivated and properly directed, would help much in increasing our knowledge, especially of the ancient history of Northern and Eastern Bengal.

During the year our finances were managed by Sir Asutosh Mukharji, and I am told that the financial position of the Society is sound; but the useful work of the Society could be much extended if more funds were available. The 'annual allotment for the library, for example, is necessarily small, though a Society of this kind ought to be able to keep its magnificent library up to date. The Society also could assist scholars to a very much larger extent by publishing important oriental manuscripts, were larger funds for this purpose at its disposal. Lately, I regret to say, we have had to postpone the publication of further works for a period of at least one year, through want of the necessary money. This is a point which I greatly regret. It is very disappointing, especially to those who have spent their days in laborious research entirely without remuneration and out of a pure love for learning—to find that the results of their labours cannot, for want of funds, be placed at the disposal of scholars in other parts of the world.

The building of the new premises for the Society has not yet been taken in hand. We will all be sorry to leave these historic rooms which are associated with the work of so many great scholars, but I am told this building is beyond the possibility of adequate repair and at the same time I realise that we must provide a house befitting the dignity of the Society, with an up-to-date library in which to keep the valuable collection of books and manuscripts which we now possess. I hope that it may be possible to make a beginning before next year. It was decided by the Building Committee in June last year to apply to the Government for permission to sell or lease a part of our garden, and it was decided also to write to the Mining and Geological Institute in India regarding their former offer to contribute a lump sum for accommodation in the Society's buildings. As soon as these points have been settled, the Building Committee will get to work.

I now turn to the literary and scientific work done by the Society and its members during the year. Professor Oldenburg, whom we had the honour to welcome in our city last year, an Honorary Fellow of this Society, read "A note on Buddhism" in January 1913, which gave in a short compass an interesting review of the Buddhistic researches made in Europe and eventually in Asia during the last thirty years. After paying a tribute to our Society the erudite Professor discussed the relative priority of the Northern and Southern schools of Buddhism and arrived at the conclusion that the Southern type, as embodied in the *Pali* literature, is the older one, and that the Philosophical thought, common to both, has been evolved out of the *Upanishad* portion of the *Vedic* literature. Mr. K. P. Jayaswal, in his article on "The date of Asoka's Coronation," places on the evidence of the thirteenth rock edict, the coronation in the year 272 B.C. and *Chandra Gupta's* accession to the throne of *Magadha* in 324-25 B.C. In an article entitled "The plays of *Bhasa* and King *Darsaka* of *Magadha*" the same writer maintains on the authority of the poet *Bhasa* that the King *Darsaka*, mentioned in the *Puranas* as successor to *Ajatasatru*, was an historical personage appearing in the *Pali* chronicle under the name of *Naga-Dasaka*.

Mr. C. R. Kaye, in an article on the "*Bakshali* Manuscripts" examining the manuscript in question from the standpoint of a

mathematician and philologist, concludes that it is not older than the 11th century A.D., although Dr. *Hoernle*, who edited the manuscript for the first time in 1888, assigned the date of its composition to the 3rd or 4th century A.D. Babu *Rakhal Das Banarji*, in his article called "*Lakhsmana Sena*," agrees on epigraphical grounds, with Dr. Kielhorn in maintaining that *Lakhsmana Sena* ascended the throne of Bengal in 1119-20 A.D. and ceased to reign in 1170-71 A.D. Babu *Manmohan Chakravarti* in an article on "*Bhatta Bhavadeva*" maintains that Bhavadeva, author of several well-known works on Hindu social laws, was a *Radhaya Brahmana* who flourished in West Bengal in the 11th century A.D.

Mahamahopadhyaya Hara Prasad Shastri, C.I.E., in his article on "The *Visen* Family of *Majhawali*" discusses several theories on the origin of the *Visen* Kshatriyas and identifies the founder of their family *Visvasena*, a *Kshatriya Raja* of Benares. Pandit *Anando Koul* in an article on "The History of *Kasmira*" gives, on the authority of Hasan, a Persian Historian, an account of eight kings who are said to have reigned in *Kasmira* from 191 A.D. to 521 A.D., but whose names do not appear in the *Rajtarangini*.

"*Sri-pa-ho*—a Tibeto-Chinese tortoise chart of divination"—is the title of a memoir in which *Mahamahopadhyaya Dr. Satish Chandra Vidyabhusan*, after pointing out the veneration in which the chart is held by the Tibetans, who hang it on their walls and door-frames to keep off evil spirits, traces its history from its introduction into Tibet from China in 639 A.D. to its development in its present form by the Fifth Dalai Lama in the 18th century A.D. In a paper headed "Tibetan M.S. vocabularies by Capuchins," Rev. Father Felix gives an account of a Tibeto-Italian Dictionary supposed to have been written by Father Francesco Orazio Della Penna about 1738 A.D. and presented to the Bishop's College, Calcutta, in 1824 A.D. The same Father in his paper "On the Persian *Farmans* granted to Jesuits by the Moghul Emperors, and Tibetan and *Newari* *Farmans* granted to the Capuchin Missionaries in Tibet and Nepal" describes briefly some Tibetan and *Newari* documents unearthed from the missionary archives at Agra, two of which bearing the seals of the Dalai Lama and his Regent, and dated, respectively, 1741 and 1751 A.D., are supposed to have been used as passports by Capuchin Missionaries for the purpose of preaching Christianity in Tibet. Similar documents engraved on copper-plates and conferring further privileges on the aforesaid missionaries were received from *Jayaranjit Malladeva* and *Jayaprokasa Malladeva*, of Nepal, in 1737 and 1740 A.D., respectively. All such documents are bound to prove of great value to antiquarian scholars.

In an article entitled "the Pitt-Diamond and the eyes of Jagannath," Father Hosten recounts the story which charges a Dutchman with the theft of the Pitt-Diamond from the statue of Jagannath at Puri.

The "Rev. L. Bernard among the Abors and the cross as a tattoo-mark" is the title of a paper in which Father Hosten discusses the origin of the Abor Tattoo-marks which were considered by Father Krick as possible relics of ancient Christian Missions, but in which Father Bernard refuses to see any Christian origin or signification.

Maulvi Hedyat Husain gave us some account of the life and works of Muhib Allah of Bihar, the author of *Musallam-al-Subut*. The same Maulvi has also edited and translated the unique manuscript "The Mirza Namah" (the book of the perfect gentleman), the supposed work of Mirza Kamran, the learned son of Babar Shah. The writer of the paper discusses at some length the doubtful question of its authorship and fixes of the Hijri Era 11th century as its date. The etymology and history of the word "Mirza" is also dealt with.

Mr. W. Kirkpatrick contributed a paper in which he attempts to prove that the European Gypsies originally migrated from India by showing the similarity of *Romnichal* or (the language of European Gypsies) and colloquial Hindustani. The writer points out that the fact of the migration of Gypsy-like people from India into Persia (where they are called Luris) has been confirmed by *Fardausi* and the Arabian Historian *Hamrya*.

Mr. R. B. Whitehead, in his paper on the Mint Towns of the Mughal Emperors of India, has followed the same lines as Mr. Burns in the preparation of a new edition of his tables but with certain differences which he enumerates in detail.

I now turn to the Natural and Physical Sciences. Twenty-nine scientific papers were issued in the Journal and two in the Proceedings in the year under review—16 Zoological, 10 Chemical, 2 Botanical, 2 Geological and 1 Geographical. Mr. Kemp exhibited a most interesting collection of birds made in the Mishmi Hills by Captain Kennedy, but the most important work of the year has been the issue of two special series of papers dealing with the zoological collections made by Dr. Annandale in the Lake of Tiberias and its neighbourhood.

There was a slight increase in the number of papers dealing directly with anthropological subjects, communicated to and published by the Society during the year, and it is hoped that this is the beginning of a revival in attention paid to such studies. The neglect from which anthropological investigations have suffered in India for some time is commented on in the preceding Annual Reports.

I have been making enquiries particularly with regard to the grant for Ethnographic research which is made by Government to the Society. The grant of Rs. 3,600 a year was made in view of the importance to the officers of Government of a knowledge of the customs of the people of the country and their traditions and conditions of life. The original idea appears to have been that the Society would become a centre of reference and a Bureau of information for all Government officers in Bengal who desired to pursue researches in these matters. I regret to find that the Civil officers of Government are not taking advantage of the Bureau to the extent that was anticipated, but I believe that the reason is that the existence of the Bureau and the assistance it is capable of giving are not sufficiently well known. I find that many of the officers with whom I come in contact never heard of it. One officer to whom the Bureau was invaluable, was Mr. O'Malley whose excellent Census Report appeared during the past year. The subjects with which the Bureau deals are such

as should be of profound interest to officers of Government in all departments; and the direct management of the Bureau is in the hands of Mahamahopadhyaya Hara Prasad Shastri who is exceptionally well qualified to answer enquiries upon these subjects and to offer suggestions as to sources of information, courses of study, or method of treatment. I trust that henceforward far greater use may be made of the services of the learned Shastri by officers of Government in this Presidency than has been made in the past. I am taking steps, to make the existence of the Bureau and its objects well known, and I hope in the near future to see a considerable development in this branch of the Society's work.

Mr. W. Kirkpatrick has continued his valuable researches into the folklore and customs of the *Gehara Kanjars* and has published a paper dealing with the marriage ceremony and marriage customs of this Gypsy tribe. The same author has also contributed a paper to which I have already referred on the resemblances which exist between colloquial Hindustani and the language of the European Gypsies. Mr. J. Coggin Brown has given an account of the *A-Ch'ang* of *Maingtha* tribe of the *Hohsa-Lahsa* States in Yunnan, and has attempted to prove that the grouping of these people with the Tai is incorrect, and that they are really an almost submerged Tibeto-Burman Clan.

The important branch of prehistoric Archæology has received some attention. Babu H. C. Das Gupta has described two spade celts from Assam, and has added evidence which helps towards the association of these and similar forms with the ancestors of the Mon-Hkmer peoples. Mr. J. Coggin Brown exhibited a number of polished stone implements from Yunnan before a meeting of the Society.

An exhaustive memoir by Mr. James Hornell on the antiquity and the present condition of the *Chank Bangle* industry in India, published during the year, forms a timely contribution to our knowledge of an important though comparatively little known art.

Mr. F. H. Malyon's memoir on some current Pushtu folk stories, also published during the year, though primarily intended to illustrate the forms of certain dialects, is not without anthropological interest, and is an instance of the manner in which members of the Society, thoroughly acquainted with the languages of the races amongst whom they live, may advance our knowledge of Indian Folklore.

Owing to the absence of its author on the eastern frontier for the greater part of the year, the memoir on the *Abor* and *Galong* tribes by Sir George Dunbar and the anthropometrical supplement by Messrs. Kemp and Coggin Brown, which it was intended to publish during the year, has been delayed. It is now in page proof and will be issued shortly. The delay has not been without its advantages, as it has enabled the author to add valuable appendices giving the results of his recent work. This exhaustive memoir will certainly rank as the most important anthropological work which has been published in Northern India for some years. The Society has also published a translation by the Rev. Gille, of Father Krick's account of his work among the Abors in 1853—a few months before the murder of the intrepid traveller by

Mishmis. Before the April meeting of the Society, Messrs. S. W. Kemp and J. Coggin Brown exhibited a large collection of objects illustrating the ethnology of the Abors and their neighbours.

A paper communicated by Dr. Annandale, J. Coggin Brown and F. H. Gravely deals partly with the Archæology and Folklore of the Limestone Caves of Burma and the Malay Peninsula.

Many of the philological and historical papers communicated to or published by the Society during the year have a direct bearing on anthropological matters. Amongst others the following are especially noteworthy: *Mahamahopadhyaya Hara Prasad Shastri's* Account of the Ancient Civilization of Bengal, *Dr. Satis Chandra Vidyabhusan's* Memoir on *Sri-pa-ho*—a Chinese tortoise chart of divination—and *Dr. Jivanji Jamsedji Modi's* Paper on India in the Avesta of the Parsee.

A set of anthropometrical instruments belonging to the Society has been lent to Captain Kennedy, I.M.S., Medical Officer to the Abor Expedition at present working through the Dafla country, and it is anticipated that valuable results will be obtained by their use.

The co-operation of members of the Society interested in the study of man is earnestly invited, otherwise it is impossible for this branch of the Society's work to advance in line with the development of the science in other countries. In many parts of the Indian Empire there are races and remnants of races suffering rapid absorption by more virile communities, and the opportunity for their study cannot last much longer. Unless Anthropological researches on these tribes are undertaken at once, the valuable information they can afford, and the light which they may be able to throw on many unsettled problems, will be irretrievably lost.

During many years past the Society has keenly felt the urgent need for the close association of European Sanskritists in the important work of editing the texts published in the Bibliotheca Indica. It is no disparagement to Indian scholars, especially of the older type, to say that their very familiarity with the texts makes it extremely difficult for them to assume that critical spirit in their examination which is imperatively demanded by genuine scholarship. We have had men like *Dr. Rajendra Lal Mitra* and *Pundit Satyabrata Samasrami*,—to mention only names of departed scholars,—who have been distinguished by critical acumen and who have produced works which will stand the test of scrutiny from the point of view of Western scholars. But men of this type are rather the exception than the rule, and if the reputation of the Society is to be maintained, we must endeavour to attract the co-operation of Western scholars in a much larger measure than we have been able to do in recent years. From this point of view it is fortunate that a number of Orientalists have recently been in our midst, mainly through the endeavours of the University of Calcutta, such men as Dr. Oldenberg, one of the foremost among the Vedic and Buddhistic scholars of the present generation, and Dr. Jacobi who is the leading authority on the subjects of Indian Poetics and Indian Logic. We have also amongst us Dr. Strauss who is a distinguished scholar in Vedic learning, and last but not the least Dr. Thibaut who is famous for his contributions to our

knowledge of Indian Philosophy and Indian Astronomy. There is no reason why men of the type I have mentioned should not be persuaded to take a leading part in the work of the Bibliotheca Indica and thereby to set up a standard from which our successors will not willingly depart.

The acquisition of Sanskrit manuscripts has been limited to works of extraordinary interest pending the completion of the catalogue of the large collection of Sanskrit manuscripts in the Society's library. During the year only three manuscripts were acquired. The policy adopted last year in the search for Arabic and Persian manuscripts has been maintained. The fund set apart for the object has been applied to information concerning the existence of and the present *locale* of rare and interesting manuscripts rather than in the purchase of new manuscripts. With this object in view, the first travelling Maulvi visited four places at Lucknow and one in Benares. He also examined the stocks of several manuscript dealers at Cawnpore and Lucknow. Short accounts of these manuscripts have been prepared and will soon be published. The thanks of the Society are due to Khan Bahadur *Shams-ul-Ulama Maulvi Abdul Aziz, of Hyderabad*, who presented 69 volumes of Persian and Arabic books to the Government collection. A report has been submitted to the Government of India giving a history of the efforts made in the search after *Badric* chronicles. The scheme for future work, as foreshadowed in the report, is under the consideration of the Council. But in the meantime the Government proposes to appoint Signor Tessiteri, a young Italian (who has made Gujrati and the dialects of Western Rajputana his special study), to edit the chronicles collected by the Society.

For much in the foregoing notes I am indebted to the Secretaries of the different sections. The study of their notes has brought myself into touch with much work of the Society of which I did not know, and I hope that their repetition by me will lead the members as a whole to realise what is being done by the different sections. I hope also that those members of the Society and friends who are here to-night will be enabled to appreciate what the Society is doing to advance the bounds of knowledge.

There are one or two incidents of the general interest closely connected with the Society's life to which I would like to refer. The first of these is the revival of the Calcutta Historical Society. In May 1911, the work of the Society, as well as the continuance of the Society's journal "*Bengal Past and Present*" came to a standstill owing to the departure from India of the members who were responsible for their conduct. Attempts were made in vain to find substitutes, and it was resolved that the Council of the Calcutta Historical Society should approach the Asiatic Society with a view, if possible, to amalgamation on such terms and conditions as the representatives of the two Societies could agree upon. The representatives met in June, but could not find amalgamation feasible. Hence in the beginning of 1912 the Council of the Calcutta Historical Society, deeming it impracticable to carry on the business of the Society, but believing it to be inexpedient—in view of a possible reorganisation—that the Society should be dissolved—resigned their several offices.

The Society is now being organised by some energetic members, and a good many of the old members have already rejoined.

One of the main difficulties is to find members for the Editorial Board—for it has been clearly shown in the past that it is only by having a group of co-workers that any permanence can be assured for the publication of a journal. This difficulty, I am informed, is gradually being overcome, and you will all I know join with me in wishing the Calcutta Historical Society all success in its labours.

The other two events of which I wish to make special mention are the Centenary of the Indian Museum and the holding of the first Science Congress.

Not the least among the many scientific institutions and departments now under Government control that owe their origin to the Asiatic Society is the Indian Museum. A hundred years ago, thirty years after the foundation of the Society, Dr. Nathaniel Wallich, the eminent Botanist, suggested to our Council that a Museum should be formed, offering his own services as Honorary Curator and also duplicate specimens from his own valuable collections. His offer was enthusiastically received. It is interesting to note that Wallich was not an Englishman, but a Danish Jew, ~~and~~ who was taken as a prisoner of war at the Siege of Serampore, but released on account of his scientific attainments. He subsequently became the head of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Sibpur. Sir Asutosh Mukharji, the present Chairman of the Trustees of the Indian Museum, described in a recent erudite address, which many of us had the privilege of hearing, the growth and development of the great Institution that sprang from Wallich's suggestion. The Centenary has been celebrated in Calcutta with the dignity due to so well-established an Institution and perhaps no more fitting temporary memorial could have been devised than the special Centenary Exhibition, arranged to serve as an epitome of the various sections of the Museum. The question of raising a more permanent record or aid to progress is still to be considered by the Centenary Committee of which I am the Chairman.

The first of what we hope may be a long series of Indian Science Congresses recently met in our historic meeting-room under the auspices of our Society. Representatives from all parts of India assembled to read and discuss scientific papers, and, what is perhaps more important, to become acquainted with one another personally and with one another's work. The Government of India liberally assisted its Scientific officers to take part in the Congress by permitting them to visit Calcutta on duty. The date of the first meeting was a day of the 130th anniversary of the foundation of the Society; that the assistance of our Council should have been involved in convening the Congress is in itself a proof that the Society's old age is not its dotage, and our thanks are due to Mr. Hooper, and to the members of the Local Committee for the manner in which our traditions were maintained on this important occasion. It is hoped that arrangements may be made for the publication, in a fitting and convenient form, of the Proceedings of the Congress which has requested us to make the necessary arrangements.

I feel I cannot close without reference to the early departure of two of our most distinguished members—Dr. Denison Ross and Mr. Hooper. Mr. Hooper's connection with the Society extends over many years. He has done much valuable work for us and has filled the posts of Treasurer and Vice-President. Dr. Denison Ross has been the Philological Secretary of the Society for over ten years. He signalled his tenure of that post by bringing about a revival of interest in Tibetan studies. It was through his efforts that an important work in manuscript by the celebrated Hungarian traveller and scholar *Csoma de Koros* was printed and published, and it was at his instance that the Society engaged a Lama to work on the Tibetan manuscripts owned by the Society.

The Society, as you are aware, has been engaged for many years in the search after valuable Sanskrit manuscripts on behalf of Government. Dr. Denison Ross obtained the sanction and pecuniary assistance of the Government of India to a similar search being made for rare Arabic and Persian manuscripts known to be scattered throughout India, with the result that there is now stored, side by side with the Society's own collection, some 3,000 manuscripts in these languages which in proper hands should throw much further light on points connected with Indian history.

Dr. Ross' services to literature and research have been invaluable to us in India, and we know how greatly they will be appreciated in the sphere of his new labours.

Our best wishes go with Dr. Ross and Mr. Hooper in their new spheres of work; we feel sure that we shall always be proud to think that we have counted them among our active members, and we know that this Society will always have a warm place in their hearts.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Prize Distribution at the Dacca College,
on 11th February 1914.***

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I was very¹ pleased to hear Mr. Barrow say that you are glad to welcome me, and I can say with truth that I am very glad to be able to come to give away your prizes, and to congratulate, as I do most heartily, those who have won them. Mr. Barrow referred to the difficulties—or to some of the difficulties—for I do not know whether he referred to all—which hampered the College—both staff and students—during the past year: I am glad to know you succeeded well in overcoming those difficulties; I dare say you looked upon them as so many incentives to do your best: that is the right way to look on difficulties—and your report shows that in the things on which you concentrated your energies you have nothing to be ashamed of. I was a little bit sorry to hear Mr. Barrow say that you have not taken as much interest as he would have liked you to do, in your literary section. I dare say you have reasons for this which seem good to you; perhaps you were giving all the energy you felt inclined to give to preparing for your examinations or to other pursuits which you thought more likely to be of use in after-life, or perhaps you preferred to devote your leisure to things which were more amusing at the moment. But, however that may be, I hope you will consider well whether you cannot give more attention to the objects which I fancy the literary section is meant to forward. I suppose it aims at giving to its members a true perception of literature in its application to life. I do not refer to literature as a regular part of your College work, nor to the use it may be to you in your future profession or for any purposes of gain, but to what it can do to add to your enjoyment all through life. I dare say you all realise, as far as any of us can realise it at your age—probably a great deal better than I realised myself when I was of your age—the twofold nature of education. There is that side of education which gives a man knowledge and skill in applying knowledge, which secures to him habits of accuracy and diligence, and all those things without which a man has little chance of success in the practice of any profession. But there is also another side to education which goes far to build up a man's character which forms his tastes, which determines what he likes or dislikes probably all through life, which calls out his emotions and above all which teaches him how to control his emotions. It is of this second side of education that I am now thinking: this is the most important side of education—probably for a man's own happiness, and certainly for the happiness of those with whom he is brought in contact. You get this side of education very much from your games and your amusements, perhaps quite as much as you get it from your studies. All studies—though some more than others—help us to make the most of our powers to overcome difficulty, to use our brains or our hands—or best of all to use both.

That is in itself a great source of enjoyment; and I want to remind you, or perhaps point out to you, that you will be wise to take the opportunities which you have now to train your minds both in your regular college work and in what you do of your own initiative, not only in such a way as shall lead to professional success, but in such a way as may lead to enjoyment in life. With this end in view I think you cannot, on the whole, whatever it be, that you study for professional purposes, do better than cultivate a taste for good literature. I know how much good one can obtain from attention to Physical Science—to my mind nothing gives a man more pleasure. I have met men who tell me that their keenest joys come from the skill they have acquired in Mathematics, and I have no doubt this is true of other studies which are embraced in your regular curriculum, but it is not always easy for a man to find the opportunity for using his knowledge of Natural Science or of Mathematics outside of his professional work, to add to his own pleasure or to that of others. Only too often, and necessarily, the only way in which one can secure joy, is by combating sorrow. As years go on, you will find all of you—every man who is a man at all has found it—that the best chance of living a happy life lies in being able to help others or in inducing one's self to look from a cheerful or at least a comforting point of view at facts which at first tend to give one a feeling of despair. Far the largest part of every man's life—whatever his position may be—is spent in contact with his fellow-beings, and a man soon learns that the thing which really makes most for happiness is the understanding, and sympathising with one's fellow-men. Some one has asked, I think it was Mr. James Bryce, in one of those addresses which he gave to educational institutions in America, whether in the supreme moment of a moral struggle, any one ever found help or stimulus from the thought that the square described on the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle is equal to the sum of the squares described on the other two sides thereof. Probably the answer to that question is “No.” But there are few who have not found comfort in the recollection of ideas which they have learned from great authors. An idea or feeling once well expressed in clear simple language becomes the idea or feeling of many more people than the man who expressed it. It is a great thing to possess such ideas; and a knowledge of good literature gives that as nothing else does. We learn from those who have written how former generations felt, and so we learn to understand our own generation better. The oldest literature is often the most helpful, for in it we find human thought and human passion expressed in the simplest and most elemental way, and—just because it is simple and elemental—it appeals to men and women of all time; we find that the thoughts of those long since dead, expressed sometimes in languages which we call dead, are still as full of encouragement and as strong to convince as ever they were. We do not know what the future may bring to us; all we can be certain of about it is that it will not be as the past was or as the present is; it may bring with it success, or it may bring with it disappointment—none of us can escape from some share of disappointment and sorrow; we are fortunate if our minds are stored with noble ideas to nerve us to struggle on, we are more fortunate—indeed we are happy—if we can give out those ideas in clear language and pass them on to others to nerve them too

in their struggle. You are soon—many of you—to begin your active professional life. With many, perhaps with most of you, the struggle will be hard. Last year, when speaking here, I threw out a hint that it might be well if our Bengali young men did not look too much to Government Service. It was pointed out to me then, and has been pointed out to me often since, that my words must appear almost cruel to some. To what else other than Government Service can many of the young men of this country look when they find avenues to employment closed to them, which in other land lie freely open to all, when the Bar is crowded, and when the Medical profession, outside of large towns, hardly affords a competence—though it is almost impossible to exaggerate the real need for medical men all through the country. I admit there is truth in that view. There is a great difficulty—a growing one perhaps—at any rate one which becomes more and more apparent here, where there is such a strong and widespread desire for higher education, while the openings for those with that education are so few and so meagre. A way of meeting that difficulty is, it seems to me, one of the most clamant needs of this country; one comfort is, that if we can supply that need we shall go a long way towards supplying other clamant needs. It is a difficulty everywhere, a difficulty in Britain, a great difficulty even in the newer countries, nowhere a greater difficulty than it is in this ancient country where old customs and habits—no doubt very valuable under the conditions which called them forth—are hard to reconcile with the conditions which competition with other countries and for the objects desired by other countries, cannot but bring about. I wish I could indicate to you a way out of the difficulty—but I cannot—we can only be patient and work hard to find it. That a way will be found I feel convinced, that it will be found sooner rather than later, I hope,—I think there are signs of it,—signs of it in the open-minded way in which men are daily more and more preparing to approach educational problems and social problems. Here I think we can find one ground for hope when we think of the Dacca University that is to be, and remember the discussions that took place about it. But the way can only be found if we are all determined to work together—to whatever race we belong—if we are all willing to recognise that we have much to learn from each other, whether we are Britishers, as I am, or Bengalis, as most of you are, if we are all willing to recognise that we have to build up—almost to create—a joint public opinion which shall be at once both yours and mine—which shall be as much Bengali as British—which shall be ours, and which shall help us to look at things from each other's point of view. This brings me back to the idea from which I started, that it is worth your while, worth every one's while, to get their minds full of the thoughts conveyed in good literature. Nothing tends more than good literature does to impress one with the underlying unity, in what is best, of all mankind in every age and every country. The learning that underlies modern Civilisation is, perhaps, too often apt to appear as a destructive force in a land where old customs, which grew up in quite a different kind of Civilisation, have to compete with it; it dwells, perhaps, too much

on purely material advantages. It is good for us to be reminded that there is, at any rate, one idea which has been and is a powerful force in all Civilisation, which is both old and new, which has been expressed over and over again and in many tongues, the idea which I now quote to you in the words of one of the most modern writers of one of the most modern countries—Mr. Bernard O'Dowd, an Australian—

“That culture, joy and goodliness
Be th' equal right of all,
That greed no more shall those oppress
Who by the wayside fall.
That each shall share what all men sow,
That colour caste's a lie,
That man is God, however low,
Is man, however high.”

His Excellency's Speech at the Army Young Men's Christian Association at Dacca, on 13th February 1914.

I AM very glad to be able to come here to present the prizes, and I heartily congratulate those who won them. The manœuvres are now nearly over. I say nothing about them from a military standpoint—I hope they have served their purpose well. But as Head of the Government, more immediately responsible for this part of His Majesty's dominions, I want to tell you, men of the various regiments, that I and my officers thank you for what you have done. When you came here, you came to a part of India where very few of the people had ever even seen a soldier, and where too many of them had a wrong impression of what a British soldier is. Many of these people have now seen you. Many more will hear about you from those who have seen you. What they have seen and what they will hear, will, I trust, correct their impression and give them a truer idea. I rejoice to think that when you leave Eastern Bengal, you will leave a people friendly towards the British soldier. You have not only shown that you have a lively and justifiable sense of pride in the Army, and that you are ready to work hard if called on in the service of our King, but you have also shown that British soldiers behave like gentlemen, that they treat their fellow-subjects of whatever race with friendliness and good will, that they give fair play to all, even to the weakest—that in short the British soldier plays the game. I thank you for this and for the good-natured courtesy with which, as I am told on all hands, you behaved towards the people whom I govern. By your conduct you have given proof that you are trying to carry out the wishes and the policy of His Majesty the King-Emperor, whose servants you and I are. In this you have shown your loyalty, and I believe that your example has strengthened and will strengthen still more the loyalty of those who have seen you, or who will hear about you. Once more I thank you. I know you have had hard work, but I know you do not grumble at that—at least not too much. I hope the various games and amusements—of which the prizes which I handed over just now are a reminder—have helped to prevent you from becoming stale or overweary; and I hope you will carry away with you some pleasant memories of Eastern Bengal, and a kindly feeling towards its people.

There is one thing more which I should like to say; I think you will approve of my saying it. I admire the way in which Mr. Callan and others connected with the Young Men's Christian Association have worked. I feel sure they have done their duty by the soldiers in the camp, and I feel sure you, soldiers, recognise that and are grateful to them.

***His Excellency's Speech at the East Bengal Saraswat Samaj
Convocation, Dacca, on 13th February 1914.***

PANDITS OF THE SARASWAT SAMAJ,

Ajikaṛ Ādhibesane, Amake Sabhapatir Ashan Grahan Karité Apanara Nimantran Kariachen. Ei Sammānēr Janya, Baro Anugrihita hoiachi. Asha Kari Apanader Ei Sanmilanir Uddeshya Śaphal Hoibe. Bangavāsha Akhanao Bishesrupé, Ayatta Karite Pari Nai. Sutarāng Anumati Hoile Apanadigake Matrivasha-i Āhbhan Kāriba.

I will now read a telegram from Sir Aśutosh Mukharji to Mr. Gourlay, my Private Secretary—"Please convey to His Excellency my deep regret that official duties prevent my presence at Saraswat Samaj Convocation. I have the deepest veneration for the Pandits of the Samaj, and sincerely desire their prosperity and well-being."

I need not speak about your objects. I would merely say that the sympathy of my Government is sincerely with you. The scheme for the re-organisation of the Samaj is under our consideration. We have, as you know, been trying to secure the co-operation of the Government of Bihar and Orissa and of that of Assam. The Assam Government has agreed to work with us; but the Government of Bihar and Orissa is not yet in a position to give a definite reply, and the scheme will now be considered, so far as it affects Bengal and Assam. Even if the Government's opinion is favourable, the necessary cost will be large and a further reference to the Government of India will certainly be necessary. I am afraid, therefore, that I cannot hold out to you the hope of an early decision in the matter.

Speaking for myself, I can only say that I have the greatest sympathy with you. I do not know very much, but what I do know is that the Pandits have in the past done a great deal for education and for civilisation in India. I feel sure your fellow-countrymen owe a deep debt of gratitude to you, Pandits. You have kept alive the ancient learning of India. You have given and continue to give in your *tols* a very real education—not perhaps an education entirely fitted to meet the requirements of those who compete under modern conditions with others educated in a different system, and whose ideals are not the same as those aimed at in the days when the *tols* were first formed—but nevertheless you give a real education which can call out some of the finest qualities of the human intellect and enable a man to realise himself in a noble way. The old system of teaching by Pandits who live along with their students, thinking with them and guiding them, has surely something to commend it in these days when a residential and teaching University is set before us as an ideal. Plain living and high thinking, respect for superiors, loyalty to Government, love of one's country, contentment, are all things which even the most modern thinker need not despise. Your Association aims at bringing the old system into touch with the new, and that is good. I trust you may be able to do much to fit your boys to hold their own in life's struggle; I am none the less hopeful of your doing so, because I know you cling to the old doctrine which inspired the great Indians of the past—love for your people and for your country. I for one can have nothing to say against you when you are actuated by your ancient teaching Janani Janmavumischa Swargadapi Gariyasi.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Review at Dacca,
on 14th February 1914.***

OFFICERS OF THE 8TH DIVISION, for such you are though one of the regiments—the Black Watch is about to leave us and join another Division. Personally I am sorry for I am remaining in Bengal, but I know they will do their duty wherever they go, and I wish them god speed.

Your manœuvres are almost over. I can say nothing about them from a soldier's standpoint, for I am not a soldier. I hope they have been all you could wish, and that at least it has been of use to you to learn something of a country whose physical features are very unlike those of other parts of India which you know better. From my point of view, and speaking as Governor of Bengal, I can say that your visit has been a success. My colleagues and I welcomed the suggestion that troops should come to Dacca. We welcomed it, because we felt that your coming would help His Majesty's loyal subjects in Eastern Bengal to realise the nature of the power to which, in the ultimate resort, they may have to look for protection some day; and we welcomed it even more, because we felt sure that your coming would make clear the good will of His Majesty's Government and of His Majesty's soldiers towards the people.

Soldiers have seldom been seen in this part of Bengal; it was many years since any British troops had visited Dacca. We thought it unfortunate, to say the least of it, that some people here, who are not friendly to British rule, should be able, owing to the ignorance of their neighbours, to get credence for rumours that British soldiers are bullies or are over-bearing. We felt that what was needed to dissipate such rumours was the presence among the people of the soldiers themselves.

You came, and we have not been disappointed. I am told, on all sides, that wherever you have been—here in Dacca and in every district through which you marched—the people gladly recognise you as friends able to defend them, should defence ever be needed, and who treat them with courtesy and fair play.

I do not doubt that your instructions were—as instructions would be wherever British troops went in any part of the British Empire—to avoid anything which might lead to misunderstanding, and to deal fairly with all. In such matters instructions are much, but it is the spirit in which instructions are carried out that counts for most. As Governor, I thank you on behalf of the Civil authority, for the spirit in which you have acted. We know that a little thing, some lack of good nature, some hasty or thoughtless act, which would be thought nothing of where troops are well known, might here have led to regrettable results. Fears were expressed lest such things should happen, they have not happened. Your good sense, your good nature, your love of fair play—both in officers and men—have prevented them.

You have, I know, had hard work, I dare say you have felt some discomforts, the sun has at times been hot, and the dust has been thick; before you get back to your stations, some of you may realise how cold India can be—at least in the early mornings—but you have taken things as they came, and good-naturedly. You have done, all of you, what it was your duty to do; you have done, many of you, things which you could not have been blamed for leaving undone; in doing them you must have felt that you were carrying out the wishes of our King-Emperor, and were showing to His Majesty's Indian subjects that his troops, be they British or Indian, have all alike one object—to uphold his honour and to protect his people.

I have greatly admired the smartness of all the troops, British and Indian, not only at this review, but whenever I have seen them. I congratulate you, and I congratulate your men, on their discipline, and on the good nature and consideration shown by all. It has been a real pleasure to me to see Indian soldiers and British soldiers acting together in the most whole-hearted manner, so setting an example which we in Civil life can hardly commend too much.

I specially congratulate Sir Robert Scallon, the members of his staff, and the Commanding Officers of the various regiments. I trust you have found that Eastern Bengal is not such a bad place and that you will never have cause to regret your visit.

His Excellency's 'Speech on the occasion of the laying of the Foundation-stone of the School of Tropical Medicines, on 24th February 1914.

I WAS very glad to lay the foundation-stone which I have just laid. I do not think I ever did anything more gladly,—at any rate as a Governor,—than I did that. I am proud to be connected in any way with an institution which will be one of the most useful to mankind of any we are likely to see started during the life-time of any of us. Colonel Harris and Sir Pardey Lukis have already told us so much about the institution that there is little left for me to say. One thing, however, which they have already said I must repeat. I hope people will give money. There can be no better use for money, whether it is money made here or made elsewhere. We have heard what a lot has been subscribed towards similar institutions elsewhere—in America or in England. It is right that that money should be subscribed. But money given here has every chance of giving better results, for there is far more opportunity for research here: there is infinitely more material to work on. Colonel Rogers has told me that out of the many *post-mortem* examinations conducted at the Medical College, since he has been connected with it, more than a third have been cases in which deaths were due to tropical diseases. Nowhere else can such opportunity be found. The variety of clinical and pathological material available will be much greater than it can be in England, and there will be a five months' course of instruction in the school—two months longer than the course in the English schools.

The question put by the investor proposing to put money into this school and into the hospital connected with it—"will it pay?"—can have but one answer. It *will* pay. We have the classic instance of the Panama Canal before us; we know what has happened at Khartoum, where the work of the Wellcome Laboratories has been paid for again and again. Colonel Harris has reminded us of these and of how the money spent by Government in investigating the causes of Malta Fever has been amply repaid and has saved Government thousands of pounds over and above. As time goes on, there may be fewer and fewer new lands to conquer or exploit, but as long as preventable diseases devastate and weaken mankind, there will remain old lands to make more of, to develop, and to make into homes for happy and healthy people. And where can more preventable diseases be found than in countries like this, where are there more people weakened and saddened by illness—more whose energies are sapped by illness which might be prevented and some day will be prevented? Dysentery and Cholera have been referred to, and Leprosy with those there is no doubt we shall soon be able to cope effectively: thanks to study: Kala Azar has been mentioned which, it seems, takes its toll of life here in Bengal to a greater extent annually, even than Malaria, and what do we know of it? Chiefly that we might know very much more about it, and that if we did know about it, we

could prevent it. I remember that shortly before I came to Bengal, while in Madras—I went to a lecture on Kala Azar by Major Patten, who gave good reasons for thinking that bugs—common bugs—has something to do with it. I had to say a few words of thanks at the end of the lecture, and I quoted some familiar lines. I think I quoted them at some meeting at Calcutta not long ago—

The May bug, it has wings of gold;
 The June bug, wings of flame;
 The bed bug has no wings at all—
 But it gets there all the same.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, these bugs, mosquitoes and other disease-carriers get at us far too often and far too effectively, and we have to get at them and we can get at them; if we choose and if only we will spend money, and the best spent money will be that which teaches us best how to get at them to the best purpose. We most of us—even the least scientific of us—have some idea of the risk we run of Yellow Fever coming here after the Panama Canal shall be opened, and we know it would be worthwhile to spend money to lessen that risk. Yellow Fever is only one of the diseases that research will help us to overcome: there are many others, and they are here already waiting for Colonel Rogers and other enthusiasts to teach us to combat them. It is for us to help Colonel Rogers and his co-workers: they have told us what they believe they can do: they have given us reasons for their belief. They only now want money—surely that must come. There are Europeans who come out here, who have a good time out here, who make fortunes here, and go home. Colonel Rogers can show them how to invest money in a way which will make it easier for their sons or successors to make fortunes than it has been for them—even if they are not quite prepared to believe all he promises, he, at any rate, offers them a good sporting chance and bigger odds if they win than any Calcutta book-maker or even than the totalisator would give one on any race-horse. There are Indians proud of their motherland, anxious to see their fellow-countrymen make the most of their motherland; surely some of them will help, and Colonel Rogers offers to them personal attractions. I believe he expects to be able to call a bed after anyone for Rs. 5,000. For half a lakh he will hand down the name of any one to posterity attached to a ward.

Perhaps some of you are thinking of the Government and wondering what it means to do. You are right. Government ought to do all it can. If I have anything to do with it, I shall urge that that all shall be much. The Bengal Government is interested, the Government of India is interested. My only regret to-day is that it is not Lord Hardinge who is performing this ceremony instead of me. I know what a keen interest he takes in the school. I know how sorry he was that it was not possible for him to lay the foundation-stone when he was in Calcutta at Christmas time. I have received a telegram from the Viceroy which I will read to you. He telegraphs:—"My heartiest good wishes for to-morrow's ceremony in which and in all that it

stands for I am deeply interested. I am sanguine that the school, of which you are about to lay the foundation-stone, will make a great name for itself in the field of tropical medicine for the study of which this country offers such unrivalled opportunities." That shows you what an interest Lord Hardinge is taking in the school; and I feel certain that it would not be his doing if the Government of India does not largely help us. We still hear occasionally discussion as to the comparative needs of Calcutta and Delhi. In the matter of tropical medicine, Calcutta, at any rate, leads the way—and with the full approval of the Government of India. Ladies and gentlemen, I trust that Calcutta means to show that in this, at any rate, there is no gainsaying her: I believe and you believe that Calcutta will never be behind in anything. In the school of tropical medicine she leads the way in the East, let her citizens take care that whatever other places may do—and we shall not grudge them any success they make. Calcutta shall always try to keep that lead, and in keeping it, win the admiration not only of all Indians, but of all civilised peoples.

Presentation of "C. S. I." Badge on 24th February 1914.

MR. BEHARI LAL GUPTA,

The following telegram has been received by my Private Secretary from the Private Secretary to Viceroy :—

"Viceroy would be grateful if Lord Carmichael would convey his warmest congratulations on the honour that has come to Mr. Behari Lal Gupta in appreciation of his long honourable and distinguished career in the service of his Sovereign and his country. It gave the Viceroy especial gratification to bring his name to the notice of His Majesty.—P. S. V."

It gives me great pleasure to hand you the badge of the Most Exalted Order of the Star of India which forms a tangible recognition on the part of your Sovereign of the work which you have done for your countrymen. You joined the Bengal Civil Service as long ago as 1871, and after serving in many capacities in Bengal, you retired in March 1907 after 36 years' service. Your last appointment was Judge of the High Court in Calcutta. After your retirement you became Dewan of the Baroda State in the duties of which you showed the same vigour and earnestness which had distinguished your career as a Civilian in Bengal. You have a son in the Legislative Department in Bengal who will carry on the reputation of his family. I trust that you may have a great many years of health and happiness.

St. John Ambulance Association Meeting, on 27th February 1914.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

On behalf of Lady Carmichael and myself I offer you a cordial welcome here to-day.

We are, as you are aware, here for the purpose of inaugurating a Provincial Centre of the St. John Ambulance Association for the Presidency of Bengal.

This new centre is not designed to supplant the existing Calcutta Centre, but to complete the organisation of the Indian Branch in this part of India by providing machinery for organising the work of the Society in the mufassal.

The new body will be chiefly administrative in its functions and will leave executive work in local centres to the local bodies.

I do not propose to occupy your time by discussing the merits or mission of the St. John Ambulance Association, as Major Blackham, the General Secretary in India, has come all the way from Simla to tell us about the Association and its work in India, but there is just one point which I would like to emphasise and that is one which the Viceroy made a point of in his speech at the annual meeting of the Association last October, and that is the essential Indian character of the Society in this country.

His Excellency said that "although described as an offshoot of the parent Association, the Indian Branch is, to all intents and purposes, an entirely Indian Society. It owes allegiance to the parent society and the ancient Order of St. John of which it is a department and is proud of its association with those bodies, but it is at the same time organised entirely for the benefit of India and the Indian peoples."

I think this point is worthy of special notice, as is also the fact that the Association work is taught to Indians in their own languages.

In view of its essentially Indian character, I can support Lord Hardinge's opinion that the Association deserves more support from philanthropic Indians than it has yet received. Before I call on Major Blackham to address the meeting, I have been asked to present a vote of thanks of the Order of St. John to Dr. Willoughby Kennedy and the vote of thanks of the Indian Council signed by His Excellency the Viceroy to Mr. Nuttall.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Prize-giving of the Calcutta Madrassa,
on 28th February 1914.***

MR. HARLEY AND STUDENTS OF THE CALCUTTA MADRASSA,

I am glad I am able to accept Mr. Harley's invitation to preside here to-day. Both I and Lady Carmichael are sorry that as she had already made another engagement for this afternoon she is not able to give away the prizes.

Your institution has a worthy, I may almost say, a venerable tradition extending over close upon a century and a half. It was founded by Warren Hastings in 1781 and it has been the *Alma-mater* of many oriental scholars of great learning. I am told that the Madrassa was founded "with the view of enabling Muhammadans of Bengal to acquire such a knowledge of Arabic literature and law as would qualify them for the Judicial Department." No doubt this object was an excellent one, and in the earlier years of the institution it was successfully attained. But circumstances have changed, and with the change in times a change in the objects of the institution was necessary.

There is no need for me before such an assembly as this is to emphasise the importance of the Muhammadan community in this Presidency, or to impress upon you the necessity for the education of the youth of that community. The Muhammadan community differs from the rest of the Presidency in religion, in tradition, in ideals and manners, and in the language of its sacred and classical literature, and therefore the education of the Muhammadan youth requires special treatment. In the past the community did not take quite as much advantage as it might have taken of the educational facilities offered; in some cases the facilities offered were not suited to the community. All that, however, is now changed—the change has not been on one side alone. There has been a change on the side of the parents in their educational demands, and there has also been a change on the side of those whose duty it is to supply those demands. There is a great forward movement in the Muhammadan desire for education, and the encouragement of that forward movement demands special measures on the part of Government.

The present is a critical time in the history and development of Muhammadan education in this Presidency and probably in the whole of India. From conversation with leading Muhammadans I gather that there are two distinct views on this subject. On the one hand there are those who maintain that the object of all Muhammadan education should be to impart a general education with a deeper knowledge of Arabic literature and of special Arabic subjects; while, on the other hand, there are those who maintain that the sole object of the education should be to train oriental scholars. I find, however, that the opinion of practical men with whom I come in contact—men who have sons to educate and to send out into the world—is somewhere between these two. Such men desire that their sons should go through a course of

study which will produce cultured Muhammadan gentlemen fit to enter one or other of the careers open to all Indian students; but it must be a course of study which is not exclusively secular. In my experience all Muhammadan parents are very strong on this point that religious education should not be entirely separated from secular education.

The view of the parent is that, while he wants his son to be fitted for the battle of life, he also wishes to retain all that is best of the old system of semi-religious instruction. If we are to meet this demand, we must, I think, make considerable changes in the policy of the Calcutta Madrassa. I do not propose to tell you what these changes must be. I am myself waiting to learn: all I can do is to promise to give full consideration to what men like the Hon'ble Nawab Shamsul Huda, who have personal knowledge, tell me. I personally only know enough to appreciate the truth of the words of your famous Urdu poet Hâli—who, speaking of the difference between a learned man and a dunce, says—

Hain jahl men sab—âlim o jahil—hamsar
Ata nahin farq, iske siwa, un men nazar
Alim Ko hai—ilm apni nadani ka
Jahil Ko nahin jahl ki kuch—apne khabar.

I do not wish to be a dunce. And when my hon'ble colleague and my Education officers,—to whose wisdom I was glad to hear Mr. Harley bear testimony—are able to give me their matured advice I shall be guided by it. Meanwhile they are giving careful consideration to all your pressing needs. I can easily believe your buildings have served their time and that you need better accommodation, larger rooms and more modern facilities. But I know my hon'ble colleague the Nawab has all these points in mind. He has often spoken of them to me; therefore I say no more but ask you to recall your proverb—

Jaise kele ke pāt
Pāt—pāt men pāt
Taise gyani ke bāt
Bāt—bāt men bāt.

His Excellency's Speech, dated the 2nd March 1914, for adjournment of Legislative Council on account of Lord Minto's death.

I FEEL sure that Hon'ble Members will agree with me that it is only right that this Council should at once adjourn—without sitting—out of respect for the memory of one with whom this place—this very room—is closely associated. I need say but little, Lord Minto left India only a few years ago, and many of you knew him and loved him. I am certain that in Calcutta, in Bengal, sorrow is to-day widespread; and that it is a very genuine and heartfelt sympathy which goes out to his widow and to his children.

Five consecutive generations,—as he himself once reminded us—of his family have lived within this building—that in itself is a remarkable thing which Bengal is not likely to forget. I am tempted to recall to some lines which he himself quoted with approbation—

The nerve unshaken by mischance,
The care unlessened by success.
And modest bearing to enhance,
The natural charm of manliness;—

there must be many looking back just now with admiration on those very qualities, for those very qualities endeared him to all who knew him, both as Viceroy and as a man.

For us here the thought uppermost in our minds probably is that it was in this room, little more than four years ago, that he welcomed “the members of the newly-constituted Imperial Council on their first assembly at the Capital of the Indian Empire.” Our Council is the direct outcome of the reforms which Lord Minto then inaugurated and of which he spoke so hopefully.

You remember his statement of belief that “the fellow-service of British and Indian Administrators under a supreme British Government is the key to the future political happiness of this Country.” We recognise that Lord Minto worked hard for India in that belief and recognising that we honour his memory.

This Council stands adjourned until to-morrow at 11 A.M.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Legislative Council,
on 13th March 1914.***

At a meeting on the 5th March a representation was made to me by certain Hon'ble Members asking me to postpone the discussion of the Resolutions arising out of the Financial Statement (which by our rules we take to-day) until a later date. The practice of other Legislative Councils was referred to as justifying this request, and it was pointed out to me that the time given to Hon'ble Members in which to prepare Resolutions for the discussion was, in the opinion of those who signed the representation, obviously inadequate. I stated to the Council that I could not agree to the prayer of the representation for this year, but that I would consider whether the wishes of those who signed it could be met in subsequent years.

I have looked into the matter and I find that unless the Government of India alter their dates for dealing with the various stages of the India Budget, it would be impossible for me to do as I have been requested to do. Even if it be within my power to make the postponement asked for—a question into which I need not enter—it would not, I think, be a proper use of my power, for to postpone the discussions would only be to make them entirely futile, in that the India Budget would meanwhile have been disposed of, and no recommendation by this Government, based upon Resolutions presented to it, could be entertained.

Hon'ble Members in basing their request on the practice of other Legislative Councils are under a misapprehension. Neither in Madras, nor in Bombay, nor in any other province where a Legislative Council exists does the discussion of analogous Resolutions to those which can be moved here to-day, begin on a date later than 13th March.

As to the length of time available to Hon'ble Members after they have received the amended Financial Statement, Government introduced the present procedure, with the sanction of the Government of India, and believing it to be an improvement on the procedure previously in force. Ten full days, instead of three, as was the case before 1912, are now secured to Hon'ble Members in which to draft Resolutions, and four further full days in which to prepare speeches: it seems to me that these periods are not unduly short.

Probably in every year some Hon'ble Members may be unable to listen to the speeches delivered on behalf of Government, when the various Budget heads are introduced, and it may seem to those Members that there might be possible advantage if they had longer time in which to read and study these speeches. This advantage could never be more than a very slight one: but if I can secure it to Hon'ble Members in another year, I shall be glad to do so: at present, however, I do not see how I can.

***His Excellency's Speech at the Unveiling of Lord Kitchener's Statue,
on 21st March 1914.***

SIR LAWRENCE JENKINS, YOUR HIGHNESS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

When I was asked, now some months ago, to take the leading part to-day and unveil a memorial raised by Britons and Indians alike to commemorate the work done for India by a great fellow-citizen of the Empire, I readily agreed; for I felt proud at being associated in any way with Maharaja Sir Prodyot Kumar Tagore Bahadur and those who have seen to it that Calcutta shall possess a lasting monument of Lord Kitchener. But it was no easy task which I undertook. It is never easy to speak one's mind fully about a man who is alive, whose career is not yet over—to whom and to whose work we are still too near to be able to estimate them quite dispassionately. It is true that this difficulty is less to-day than it often is, for Lord Kitchener is not a man who loves to hear his work praised. For him, if for any man, it is enough that he knows himself that his work was good. But I have a further difficulty, I am not a soldier. I have no expert knowledge of what may seem to you—many of whom are soldiers—some of whom have served under him—the outstanding part of Lord Kitchener's career, and I fear my words may seem to you to lack that intimate knowledge which makes words worth speaking.

I shall not try to estimate the value of Lord Kitchener's work as a soldier. I have but seen and heard what other civilians have seen and heard. We all know that he joined the Army in 1871—that he did survey work in Cyprus and in Palestine; that he served Egypt, first on the Nile from 1883 to 1886—then in his independent command at Suakin—then as Adjutant-General in the Egyptian Army—then as Sardar when he won his victories at Atbara and Omdurman. Then came his work in South Africa as Lord Roberts' Chief of the Staff, and after that the far harder work—done with such infinite patience—of completing Lord Roberts' campaign: then, with hardly breathing space between, followed the chief command of the Army in India—those seven strenuous years whose result was summed up by Lord Minto when he said at the Simla United Service Club in August 1909 that Lord Kitchener on vacating his high office would “bequeath to India better-trained, better-equipped and better-paid troops than she has ever possessed before.” But Lord Kitchener's labours did not end with those seven years. He came to India with a great reputation, he left India with a greater reputation, and he has added to it since. I know, for I was there, how greatly he helped the people of Australia to give a practical turn to their aspirations towards self-defence: and in Egypt, the land of his early experience, he is showing himself as successful an Administrator in Civil matters as he is of Military affairs.

I have in my hand, and shall now read to you, a letter from the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Beauchamp Duff—that General Duff of whom Lord Kitchener himself said at Simla on the occasion to which I referred just now, that “he had been my right-hand man throughout all my

work"—the letter was brought to me by General Birdwood whom you in Calcutta knew so well, as Lord Kitchener's Military Secretary, and whom we are all glad to see here to-day.

Sir Beauchamp Duff writes—

"I greatly regret that I am unable to be present personally in Calcutta to witness the unveiling of the statue of Lord Kitchener, but I have so recently arrived in India that for the moment I cannot leave head-quarters. I have, therefore, requested General Birdwood to represent me on this occasion.

"I wish, however, on behalf of the Army which I have the honour to command, to convey to Your Excellency our grateful thanks for so kindly consenting to unveil the statue of our former Commander-in-Chief, Lord Kitchener.

"Having been most intimately associated with Lord Kitchener during the whole of the seven years of his command in India, I can testify from personal knowledge to the greatness of the work done by him in India, the full measure and value of which will, perhaps, not be fully recognised during his lifetime.

"The Army is proud that this statue of one of its greatest Chiefs should take its place among those statues which commemorate in Calcutta the statesmen and soldiers whose services to India are held in the greatest honour. Lord Kitchener himself will be proud that the site selected should be at the right hand of Lord Roberts under whom he served in the South African War.

"Your Excellency will add to our debt of gratitude if you will convey to Maharaja Sir Prodyot Kumar Tagore Bahadur and those who have been associated with him the thanks of the Army for having thus honoured one of its former Chiefs."

That letter shows you what one soldier thinks of Lord Kitchener and it is what many soldiers think of him. We have all heard how devoted to him are those who have served with him.

His years in India were years of peace, but they were not years of idleness. I dare say you remember what he said himself were the "two main principles that have underlain all I have attempted to do in India." The first was—"That each step in army reform must be founded on an accepted policy, based upon admitted premises, arrived at either by experience or by reasoning, and laid down in clear language, understood by those who have to apply it, and intelligible to those to whom it is to be applied." The second—"In all things to look ahead to consider not merely the requirements of the moment, but the abiding needs of the country—to build not merely for the present, but to lay the foundation for the needs of the future."

How far he has carried out those two principles, men better qualified to judge than I am, can tell you: but even the most ignorant civilian admires the keenness and confidence with which Lord Kitchener inspired both officers and men. Lord Minto told us that he and his colleagues found in Lord Kitchener "a far-seeing and sagacious statesman." That statue standing there on the Red Road reminds me how Lord Dufferin and Lord Kitchener together received the freedom of my native city—Edinburgh.

I remember how Lord Dufferin then spoke of the work which he himself and Lord Kitchener had done in Egypt, pointing out how the one had been the complement of the other. Lord Kitchener has since gone further with that work. We may not see it in true perspective yet, but those who have followed it must have been struck by Lord Kitchener's sound common sense; and common sense after all is the basis of statesmanship.

Lord Kitchener's claim to become "an inmate of this temple of fame"—the Maidan—to quote an expression used by Lord Elgin when unveiling the statue of that other great Field-Marshal which stands so close by on my right—is based on what he is as a soldier, and what he is as a soldier is based on qualities which have brought him success in other things also—as an administrator,—as a statesman—as a man. Lord Kitchener is sometimes spoken of as a man of Iron will, bearing all before him, and forcing his views on others,—he may seem to be this to some,—but to me he is first and foremost a man with a first-hand knowledge of facts, able to prove to his fellow-workers that what he proposes is right, and able, for that reason, to carry them with him in all that he does. It is this that has distinguished him; he has never been content to know things second-hand; whether surveying in Cyprus or Palestine, organising the Egyptian Army, or advancing on Blomfontein or Pretoria, whether redistributing the Army in India or advising the Australian Commonwealth, Lord Kitchener has always got his facts first-hand, he has gone to the spot, has seen for himself and learned to know his men. A thorough personal knowledge, a hatred of all shams, a good judgment have won for him the trust of other men and have made them eager to carry out his plans.

Those who have followed Lord Kitchener's career in India were not surprised, that when he went to Egypt the first thing to which he turned his attention was the improvement of the lot of the peasantry; they were not surprised to find him called "the friend of the fellahin." They knew that nothing would be too small for the new Agent-General to look into; they were not surprised to hear of his summoning a cotton congress and drawing up a scheme to supply better seed to every fellah in Egypt. They were not surprised, because they knew that in India his first care had been to see for himself to every detail of the life of the soldier—British and Indian alike—and that where he saw it was needed, he set to work to improve those details. We have all heard this many times; though perhaps only those who have had the privilege of reading some of his minutes can fully realise how deep is his knowledge and how genuine his sympathy.

In a few moments I shall unveil the statue. I am glad to do this before so many of Lord Kitchener's friends and old comrades. I am particularly glad to do this in the presence of a detachment of the 7th Gurkhas who have come from Quetta to do honour to their Colonel.

The statue is a fit memorial; Lord Kitchener may well be proud to know it stands here, but I am sure that he is even prouder to know that he continues to hold the affections of an army which is still, as he himself described it on the eve of his departure from India, "Second to none in loyalty to their Sovereign, in discipline, efficiency and devotion to their profession."

His Excellency's Speech at the Prize Distribution at the Bengal Veterinary College, Belgatchia, on 23rd March 1914.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

During the last two years I have often heard of the Bengal Veterinary College, and I am glad that I have been able to come here to-day to see it for myself and to hear Major Smith's report on its work. The history of the college, since its opening in 1894, has been one of steady progress and development. Its initiation (Major Smith has told us) was largely due to private enterprise and generosity, but Government also can claim that it has recognised its responsibility in the matter, and has done what it can to make the college worthy of Calcutta and of Bengal. Its value is recognised not only by this Presidency, but also by the United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa, Assam and Burma, all of which provinces have created scholarships tenable at this college.

Major Smith and his colleagues are to be congratulated on the record of the past year. It is most creditable, both to the staff and to the students, that in all three classes more than 70 per cent. of those who appeared at the recent examinations should have passed successfully.

I am sorry to hear that during the last few years recruitment has not been so satisfactory as could be wished. I hope, however, that this is only a temporary phase. The value of veterinary science is more fully appreciated every year; and if the demand for trained Veterinary Surgeons continues, the supply of students will inevitably be forthcoming. That there is a demand for passed students of this college is clear. Out of the 286 graduates who passed out of the college up to 1913, no less than 230 are employed by various governments and public bodies. I understand that the conditions of service under the Bengal Government are not all that could be desired. The question of improving these conditions is at present under consideration, and I hope that orders will shortly issue.

Those students who are about to leave the college and start on their careers carry with them my good wishes. They have chosen an honourable and useful profession—a profession whose importance will be more fully recognised as time goes on. The prosperity of Bengal depends mainly on its agriculture, and without cattle one cannot have crops. The cultivating classes may be slow to learn new things, but, as veterinary practice spreads, its value must become obvious to them. You are still to some extent pioneers in your profession. An outbreak of epidemic diseases among cattle, if left unchecked, may hamper agricultural operations throughout a large area. It is for you to show the cultivator that veterinary science can check such diseases and keep his cattle fit for the plough and the cart.

To those of you who return to the college in July, and to Major Smith and the staff, I wish a pleasant vacation.

His Excellency's Speech at the Convocation of the Calcutta University, on 28th March 1914.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

A message has been sent to you from His Excellency the Viceroy, through me, as Rector. I will now read that message to you :—

“I regret that I cannot be with you to-day. As your Chancellor I am deeply interested in the development on sound lines of the Calcutta University. Things are moving in the educational world and Universities, like other institutions, must move with the times. I cannot offer you better advice than that you should watch and study closely the educational movements in the Western world. You will find them full of instruction. There is a special reason why I regret my absence to-day. It is the last time that Sir Asutosh Mukharji will address Convocation as Vice-Chancellor. For eight years he has held this office, and it is not too much to say that he has made the University his own. I desire on behalf of myself and the Government of India to thank Sir Asutosh Mukharji for all the good work that he has done for the Calcutta University during his long and, indeed, unprecedented term of office. The Government of India have chosen as his successor one who is well known to you all, one who has been intimately connected with your University for many years, Dr. Deva Prasad Sarbadhikari. I believe that I am right in saying that he is the first non-official Vice-Chancellor of the University. Be that as it may, I can assure him on behalf of myself and the Government of India of our earnest desire that his period of office may be fully as useful and distinguished as that of the most illustrious of his predecessors.”

I now call on the Vice-Chancellor to address Convocation.

MR. VICE-CHANCELLOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have finished that which we came here to do ; in a few moments I shall declare the Convocation closed. But I must first in a few words associate myself and associate you with the expression of gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor conveyed in the message from His Excellency the Chancellor which I read to you before Sir Asutosh spoke.

His Excellency the Chancellor has told us that the Government of India are thankful to Sir Asutosh Mukharji for all the good work he has done for the University. Ladies and gentlemen, there are many others besides the members of the Government of India who are grateful to Sir Asutosh. I do not believe there is any one connected with the University of Calcutta—I doubt whether there is any educated man in Bengal—who is not grateful to him. The good work which he has done for the University has been *very good*, and it has been done with untiring energy. Sir Asutosh became Vice-Chancellor on the 28th of March 1906—eight years ago to-day—during all those eight years he has worked hard, and it was with quite justifiable pride that he himself referred just now to what he has done.

Few men have the great capacity Sir Asutosh has for working without intermission. No one can say he has ever neglected his duty as a High Court Judge—and I believe that duty is in itself arduous enough—yet all the time as Vice-Chancellor he has been doing work for his University which I have often been told might well be considered a man's full work.

There may be things to criticise in what Sir Asutosh has done. He is himself the first to admit that. No man's work can ever be beyond criticism—but no one is ever likely to say that Sir Asutosh has not worked hard; and whatever we may think of his aims, we must all admit that he has been successful, as few men are successful, in attaining the objects he set out to secure. He has shown himself capable of grasping large schemes, and he has shown himself capable of grasping and working out the most minute detail. No proposal has seemed to him so bold or so far-reaching that he was not ready to consider it when put before him; no point which arose at the moment was so small or so trivial that he would not pause to deal with it at once. His knowledge of men is vast, specially of the educated community in Bengal for whom he has worked. I am told that he knows intimately every M. A. of any distinction and that there is none holding that degree from the Calcutta University with whom he is not acquainted. He has an infinite capacity for taking pains. He has never shirked drudgery. Ready in debate, prompt and firm in giving decisions, he has, I believe, been a most expert Chairman at meetings. I dare say this has helped him to get his own way, when his way was not quite that of others, but he has always been practical; he has aimed at getting something done and getting that something done quickly, and he is open to conviction, even if he is hard to convince.

I have talked with Sir Asutosh about University development and he has told me more than once that if he could set up his own ideal and work for it, it might be very different from the ideal which has been set up for him and for which he has had to work.

His Excellency the Chancellor has reminded us that Universities, like other institutions, must move with the times. Even the oldest Universities, those where ancient customs and ancient precedent have taken firmest root, are moving. Our University has moved and it will continue to move. We, who wish her well, are anxious—none is more anxious than Sir Asutosh is—to take our Chancellor's advice to watch and closely study educational movements in the Western world, and thus learn to judge better what movement ought to be. But just for that reason we are deeply grateful to the great men of the past who guided the movement in the beginning and to the men of the present like our Vice-Chancellor and like Dr. Deva Prasad Sarbadhikari who is soon to be our Vice-Chancellor, for what they have done to guide it since. Mr. Vice-Chancellor, you finished your speech with a prayer for the welfare of your *alma-mater* for whom you have done much, and for the welfare of that greater parent divinity to whom your University as you expressed it, a mere handmaid, your beloved motherland. Ladies and gentlemen, we can all sympathise in that prayer. We all know what love for our motherland is, and those of us who have thought of such

things at all know that we can do no better service to our country than by improving our Universities, so building up and strengthening the intelligence and the character of our students who shall think for our country and work for her. Bengal is for most of you, your motherland, for me and for others of you, our motherland is another country whose welfare cannot be complete if the welfare of Bengal be in any way enfeebled. Surely then it behoves us all to do our best to help this University of Calcutta, enriched by the liberality of generous citizens like Sir Tarak Nath Palit and Dr. Rash Behary Ghosh—eagerly sought after by all your young men who desire knowledge—and guided and fostered by the Government of India—which did so much for the University while Calcutta was its head-quarters, and which is still no less interested in the University now. Surely it behoves us to do all we can to secure that the University shall continue to play its part in the intellectual development of our Province; in rearing up citizens to work for Bengal as Sir Asutosh has worked; to seek after truth; to add to knowledge, and so to add to the glory of the British Empire which depends on the happiness and welfare of all its citizens whatever part of that Empire be their motherland.

Ladies and gentlemen, I now declare the Convocation closed.